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WAVELL'S FORCES CROSS ABYSSINIAN FRONTIER

In Support Of Patriots' Rebellion

BRITISH FORCES HAVE CROSSED THE FRONTIER INTO ABYSSINIA AT SEVERAL POINTS, PRINCIPALLY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF LAKE RUDOLF, ACCORDING TO LATEST REPORTS FROM KENYA RECEIVED IN CAIRO LAST NIGHT.

In the Eritrean Mountains and the Heights of Gojjam — Abyssinia's patriot province — native war drums are nightly beating out news of the rapid British advance in Eritrea.

They are telling of the hurried Italian withdrawal and of the swift fall of Keru and Aillota which, it was learned in Cairo last night, were taken by British forces after half-hearted attempts at resistance by the Italians, who lost a few men taken prisoner.

Every mile of the British advance, it was stated in Cairo, is encouraging Abyssinian patriots. British troops are continuing to advance westward in Libya, states a British communique issued in Cairo yesterday.

Lake Tana Operations

In Eritrea, the Italian forces have evacuated two positions and are continuing to retreat.

News has been received from Abyssinia concerning recent patriot activities south and east of Lake Tana during which casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Vigorous patrolling is in progress over a large portion of the Kenya frontier. — Reuter.

TURKISH ROLE IN THE WAR

Conversations between the Turkish General Staff and the British military mission ended yesterday, and it is understood that both the Turkish and the British representatives are well satisfied with the results of the discussions.

It is not expected that any communique will be issued, but the discussions for the past 10 days are believed to have been mainly devoted to the changes in the situation since France went out of the war, Italy came in and the Germans entered Rumania.

All military points which might arise if the Germans moved into the Balkans, threatening vital Turkish interests and involving Turkey in the war, were also discussed.

The British delegates are leaving to-morrow to visit some large iron and steel works built for the Turkish Government by a British firm and which have been in production since early last summer.

U.S. DELEGATION IN LONDON

A United States delegation has arrived in the United Kingdom to discuss the leased bases, it was officially announced in London last evening, says a Reuter message.

CHINA NEW YEAR

The "China Mail" desires to express to its Chinese readers every good wish for a happy and prosperous New Year.

There will be no issue of the "China Mail" on Monday, China New Year Day. Publication will be resumed on Tuesday.

Strong N.E.I. Statement On New World Order

The Netherlands East Indies are determined not to be included in a new world order fostered by foreign powers, H. J. van Mook, Director of Economic Affairs of the East Indies, reiterated to the press, states a semi-official Japanese report.

"It is of vital importance that complete sovereignty be maintained, also that friendly economic relations be promoted without discrimination with world nations.

"There is no occasion for altering Netherlands East Indies policy and although the development of relations with her eastern neighbours constitutes an integral part of N.E.I. economic policy, the East Indies are determined to reject any form of cooperation implying the preferential position of any country." — Reuter.

PRE-WAR WORLD HAS GONE

THE PRE-WAR WORLD has gone and changes brought about by the war will be no less great than these wrought by the last war, but plans for a new and fairer post-war world could not be left till peacetime and a start must be made now.

These points were made by Mr. C. R. Attlee, the Lord Privy Seal, speaking at Oxford last night.

British Advance Goes On

By Reuter's Special Correspondent:
General Wavell on Thursday made a tour of inspection of the forts and defence of Tobruk, battered beyond recognition by British artillery and the bombs of the R.A.F.

As he walked round many buildings and shops in the town were still standing. Order is being rapidly restored in the town as the British command takes control.

The total prisoners is not yet available. Thousands are still waiting in desert prison camps to be transferred to the coast.

Although Tobruk, often called Ghatlan's eastern stronghold

Mr. Attlee added he hoped that after the war the securing of adequate food for all people would be a permanent part of the national policy.

Britain would not be able to afford an "idle rich" class, and equally those willing and able to work must not be denied an opportunity.

Appeal To Youth

"Unemployment must go," he declared.

Mr. Attlee appealed to the younger generation to have faith in Democracy. It was necessarily slow-moving and complicated but our institutions worked, not through perfection of machinery but through the existence of a will to make them work. — Reuter.

—has only just been taken, General Wavell's army is not standing still.

Following a short rest, needed by every man after the strenuous battle, plans have already been formulated for a general drive to the west.

With great audacity advanced armoured divisions are already operating westwards and the full strength of the Imperial Army is straining at the leash to follow them. — Reuter.

Parthian Bags An Enemy

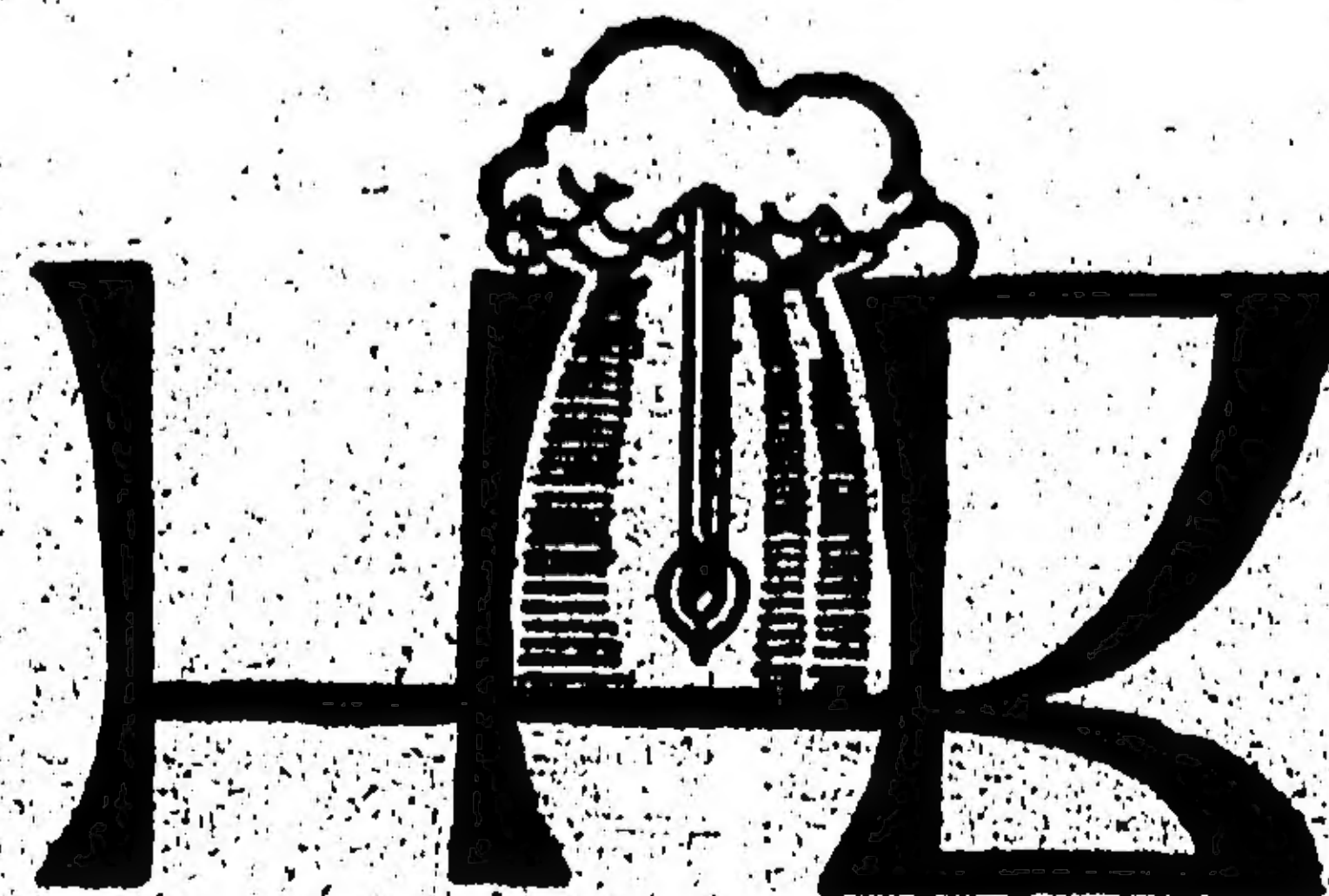
BRITISH SUBMARINES CONTINUE TO SCORE SUCCESSES IN THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN.

The Admiralty announced yesterday that these submarines "continue to carry out with success the task of interrupting Italian sea-borne communications with the army in Africa."

The Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean reports that M. M. Submarine Parthian has sunk a heavily laden supply ship of about 7,000 tons off southern Italy.

Parthian is a submarine of 1,475 tons which, prior to the outbreak of war, was stationed in Hong Kong with the Fourth Submarine Flotilla.

HAVE AN H.B.—



—AND TRY!

Antonescu Breaks Back Of Iron Guardist Revolution

But Disorders Still Continue In Bucharest

FOLLOWING YESTERDAY MORNING'S OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CAPTURE BY REGULAR TROOPS IN BUCHAREST OF 600 REBELS LED BY GENERAL PETROVICESCU, LATELY MINISTER OF INTERIOR, IT APPEARS PROBABLE THAT THE BACK OF THE RUMANIAN REVOLUTION HAS BEEN GENUINELY BROKEN.

By regaining possession of the Bucharest radio General Antonescu, the Premier, has once more in his hands a most valuable instrument for calming the people.

Nevertheless conflicting reports continue to arrive in Belgrade from Sofia, and passengers arriving in Sofia by air give vivid accounts of the confusion in Bucharest streets which seemingly on Wednesday were a veritable battlefield.

They add that certain elements of the army have joined the rebels in spite of General Antonescu's denials.

The German army, it is stated, has taken no part in the fighting.

Food Shortage

The prefecture of police, where the main fighting occurred, is a big stone building in the main street of Bucharest, with a large courtyard, and is open to fire from three sides.

Casualties on both sides therefore were probably heavy. Considerable looting is reported to have occurred, and already, owing to the dislocation of transport, there is a shortage of food.

Passenger traffic was still forbidden on Wednesday, according to three passengers who got away by air to Sofia.

Warning To Bulgaria

Demand for the cessation of hostilities by Horia Sima, Vice-Premier and Iron Guard leader, on Thursday, is regarded in Belgrade as an important factor in the situation, though why he was silent for so long remains unexplained.

A statement broadcast by Sofia radio yesterday contained a warning to Bulgaria.

Events in Rumania should be noted carefully in Bulgaria, the announcer said, and conclusions drawn from them.

Synagogues In Flames

While the rest of Rumania is reported calm, some small isolated centres of resistance to the Government remain in Bucharest, according to a Havas despatch from the Rumanian capital.

These centres of resistance, however, are rapidly being mopped up and order is said to have been completely restored in all suburbs.

Tanks are patrolling the streets of the capital, where shots are still heard from time to time.

All shops including chemists establishments, have been looted, while synagogues throughout the city are in flames.

High Death Roll

The number of dead and injured as result of the revolt is feared to be high, and the largest number of victims is believed to have resulted from fighting round the Prime Minister's office and the prefecture of police.

The population appeared in the streets again yesterday after the the nightmare of the last few days.

Meanwhile it is stated that the Legionary movement is to be reformed and reorganised. Horia Sima, the Iron Guard leader, has been removed from that post and General Antonescu is to take over personal leadership. — Reuter.



Nobody downhearted here: Life is too happy and healthy and busy at Kennylands Boys' Camp School, for anything but smiles. These young Britons giving the camera-man such a hearty send-off from the terrace of a school hut have made a grand success of a Government experiment—they are the self-supporting citizens of a little open-air community. (Copyright, Fox).

SERVICE CHIEFS IN SECRETIVE MOOD

GENERAL MARSHALL, Admiral Stark and Major-General Brett, Chiefs of the Army and Navy and Acting Chief of the Air Corps, respectively, have declined to give evidence before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the Lease and Lend Bill except in secret session.

Announcement of this by the Committee's chairman yesterday angered Hamilton Fish (Republican) who told the press he would insist that the Service experts appear before the public session.

He declared the Democratic majority were trying to arrange to hear Service men privately, and added:

"The majority are afraid what they might say after what Colonel Lindbergh said yesterday about the impossibility of this country being invaded."

The Committee rejected, by 13 votes to 10, a motion by Hamilton Fish to have three Service Chiefs testify publicly and decided to invite them to testify in secret. — Reuter.

BRITISH HOLDINGS IN U.S.

Liquidation of British marketable securities in the United States was the subject of a conference between the Secretary of Treasury and British officials in Washington yesterday.

Sir Frederick Phillips, of the British Treasury, is quoted by the Dow Jones Agency as saying that the liquidations are proceeding at a satisfactory rate.

The Treasury estimates that at December 31 British holdings in marketable United States securities amounted to \$616,000,000.

Other quarters state that British officials will shortly reach the United States with a list of direct investments which may be sold to United States interests. — Reuter.

WHY MISS BERGNER?

There is much ado in official circles over the fact that Elisabeth Bergner has "walked out" on the Ministry of Information propaganda film, "Forty-ninth Parallel," which was to tell the world what Canada means to the Empire.

Her refusal to continue in the part, for which she had already made several scenes in Canada, is to cost the taxpayers £25,000.

Without entering into the rights and wrongs of the case, but as one with a wholesome admiration of the Ministry's genius for doing the wrong thing, I should like to know who was responsible for engaging Miss Bergner to take a leading part in "boosting" our Empire, asks a correspondent.

British Now, But—

Miss Bergner, it is true, is one of the world's greatest actresses and now a British citizen. But she is Austrian by birth and did not adopt the nationality of Britain until two years ago.

Was there no British or, better still, Canadian actress who could have filled the role? It is not, for instance, a trade custom to advertise English apples by supplying an imported variety to the consumer.

Is there any just cause for the Ministry departing from this well-established rule?

For this reason I welcome the news that Miss Bergner will no longer star in this Empire film. But, as one who must help to foot the bill, I feel we might be told who considered it necessary to pass over every actress in the Empire in favour of Miss Bergner.

IRON GUARD LEADER "WANTED"

The people of Rumania were asked by wireless yesterday to reveal the whereabouts of those prominent in the recent revolt, says a Bucharest message to the German official news agency in Berlin.

Among those sought is Horia Sima, Leader of the Iron Guard. — Reuter.

HUNGARY AND THE SOVIET

Direct telegraphic communication between Hungary and Soviet Russia has now been opened, according to a Budapest radio announcement last night quoted by Reuter.

MEDIATION OFFER ACCEPTED

The Governments of Thailand (Siam) and French Indo-China have formally accepted the Japanese Government's proposal to settle the border disputes peacefully, it was announced in Tokyo last night by the Board of Information.

The announcement said that the Thailand and Indo-China Governments not only agreed to end border hostilities but also agreed to hold a conference in Tokyo soon to carry out negotiations for a peaceful settlement with the Japanese Government acting as mediator.

It is understood that Mr. Y. Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, submitted the Japanese proposal to the Thailand and Indo-China Governments on Monday. — Reuter.



Reception at the British Embassy in Cairo. Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Middle East, is seen in conversation with Lady Wavell, wife of the GOC-in-Chief Middle East, at a British Embassy reception in Cairo. (Official War Office Photo).

H.M.S. KING GEORGE V IN SERVICE

Lord Halifax Crosses Atlantic On Giant Warship

A Secret Well Kept

THE FIRST INDICATION that the giant British battleship H.M.S. King George V, 35,000 tons, had been put into commission was the announcement in London yesterday afternoon that she had arrived in American waters with Lord Halifax, our new Ambassador to the United States, and Lady Halifax on board.

A Baltimore, Maryland, message said that the ship had been sighted in Chesapeake Bay and was expected to drop anchor at Annapolis in a few hours, when Lord and Lady Halifax would come ashore and leave for Washington.

Details of Lord Halifax's departure from Britain were kept secret, but it was known that the Prime Minister and Mrs. Churchill travelled with them "to a northern base" and saw them off.

H.M.S. King George V was launched by the King at Newcastle in February, 1939. She was the first of a class of five of the largest, most-powerfully armed and most heavily protected warships in the world.

New Type Guns

All five were launched the same year, the others being H.M.S. Prince of Wales, Duke of York, Jellicoe and Beattie.

Very little has been disclosed about these warships, but it is known that their armament includes ten 14-inch guns of a new type which have a greater effect than the 15-inch guns mounted on the earlier battleships. In addition, they carry sixteen 5.25-inch guns.

Each vessel is of 35,000 tons displacement and has a designed speed of over 30-knots.

H.M.S. King George V is commanded by Captain W. R. Patterson, C.V.O., who in 1938 was Flag Captain of Staff to the Vice-Admiral commanding the Reserve Fleet.

In that same year, he was lent to the Royal Australian Navy, being Flag Officer and Chief Officer in board of the 10,000-ton cruiser Canberra shortly before war broke out.

In the last war he served in torpedo-boats, destroyers and a cruiser.

SINO-BURMESE AMITY

The opening of the Burma-Yunnan highway and of direct relations between China and Burma has necessitated an adjustment of their mutual relations in a number of directions, said Mr. H. Craw, leader of the Burmese Mission in Chungking yesterday.

Mr. Craw added that all these questions have been discussed with the Chinese Government in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and that results can be regarded as satisfactory.

The Mission has been studying trade communications in Chungking and is leaving to-day for Rangoon.

Mr. Craw, who is a Counsellor to the Government of Burma, expressed admiration of the fortitude of the Chinese in Chungking who, in spite of air raids, have rebuilt their businesses.—Reuter.

NO PARADE FOR TRAINING CADRE

The novelist, John Oxenham, who had been one of the most prolific of best sellers for over thirty-five years, died yesterday at the age of 80, says Reuter from London.



Mrs. Churchill inspecting the work of the Indian Com-fors Fund at India House. Photo shows Mrs. Churchill with Sir F. Moon, High Commissioner for India.

HONOUR FOR LORD HALIFAX

President Roosevelt arrived in Annapolis yesterday and it was announced that he and Lord Halifax, the new British Ambassador, were to motor to Washington last night.

President Roosevelt went aboard the Presidential yacht Potomac at 8.54 p.m.

Officials at the Navy Yard said the Potomac would go to meet the "King George V" and that Lord Halifax would board the yacht and cruise with the President for about an hour before disembarking.

A Marine guard of honour and the band of the Naval Academy were drawn up to do honour to the occasion.

Arrangements to honour the new Ambassador were without precedent in the experience of those who know most about Washington protocol.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt went to Washington Station to meet Their Majesties the King and Queen but for the President to leave the White House to greet anyone but a chief of state is beyond all precedent.

It is realised in Washington, however, that when the Foreign Minister of a nation becomes that nation's envoy to a foreign government he is no ordinary Ambassador.

President Roosevelt was accompanied by the Secretary of Navy, Colonel Knox, and the Chief of Navy Operations, Admiral Stark, when he went aboard his yacht.

Mr. Neville Butler, Charge d'Affaires of the British Embassy, Mr. Casey, the Australian Minister to the United States, as well as Canadian and South African diplomatic representatives boarded the cutter "Natal" and went down the Bay to meet H.M.S. King George V.—Reuter.

R.A.F. ATTACKS IN EAST AFRICA

BOMBER AIRCRAFT of the R.A.F. again attacked Apollonia on Thursday, says a Middle East R.A.F. Headquarters communique issued in Cairo yesterday.

Bombs straddled barracks and the southern edge of the aerodrome, starting a number of explosions and fires that could be seen 35 miles away.

Derna and Maraua, 50 miles south-west of Apollonia, were also raided, bombs falling among buildings at the former and among aircraft at the latter.

Details of these two attacks are not yet available.

The communique continues: Fighter aircraft maintained patrols throughout the day and deep reconnaissances were made in Italian East Africa.

Abyssinia Raid

A successful bombing attack was made by aircraft of the South African Air Force on Sciasclama, 120 miles north of Addis Ababa.

As a result of this action four Savoia 81's were completely destroyed and other enemy aircraft severely damaged.

In addition administration buildings on the aerodrome were bombed.

Neghell, 250 miles south of Addis Ababa, was also attacked and administrative buildings in the town damaged and lorries successfully bombed.

Air Battle

At Keru some enemy bombers escorted by fighters were intercepted by South African fighter aircraft and in the ensuing engagement one Caproni 133 was shot down and others damaged.

An additional Caproni 133 was destroyed on the ground.

From all these operations our aircraft returned safely to their bases.—Reuter.

GIRL CLAIMS A MIRACLE

Crippled, blind and sick people who have travelled great distances are crowding the little church at Abou Siman, near Jerusalem, where a miracle-working seven-year-old Christian Arab girl is healing them with an oil said to be blessed by saints.

According to the girl's father while his daughter was ill she was

BROTHERS PART TO BE SAFE—DIE

Two brothers who had been staunch pals all their lives became pilot officers in the same R.A.F. squadron. But they were not happy.

They shared the same fear—something might happen to the other if they didn't split up.

So they asked to be parted. The request was granted—but that didn't save them.

One brother was killed on active service.

Now the other has been killed in action after having been reported missing.

The devoted brothers were Flight Lieutenant Henry Macdonald Goodwin, twenty-five, and Pilot Officer Barry Laughton Goodwin, twenty-three.

They had only just parted when two months ago Barry was killed. Now Henry is dead.

He will be buried in the same grave as his brother at Chad-desley Corbett, Worces.

Their mother, Mrs. Goodwin, of Palmers Hill, Hagley, Birmingham, said:—

"My two boys had been staunch pals all their lives. They served in the same squadron together, but asked to be parted as they were both worrying that something might happen to them."

"Henry wrote me a letter which he asked me to open in the event of his death."

"In it he said: 'I am proud to write you this letter, because it will mean that I have done my bit for the Old Country and all that we hold dear to us.'"

"I pray God that others will carry on where I have failed until victory is won."

awakened one night and heard the angels tell her to go to the village church and daub herself with oil which was blessed by the saints.

REFUGEE SHIP LEAVES FOR SOUTH AMERICA

The French ship Alsina, with over 1,000 refugees from France, Holland and Belgium and 150 Spanish refugees, left Marseilles yesterday for Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.

Passengers include Senor Zamora, first President of the Spanish Republic, and four members of his family.—Reuter.

GIGANTIC TASK OF EVACUATION

OVER ONE-AND-A-HALF million people in Britain have been transferred from their homes in areas liable to enemy air attacks to other less vulnerable areas.

The success with which this gigantic task has been performed has caused great gratification to the committee which has been investigating its results.

This committee has visited seventeen Counties which received the evacuees and has reported favourably thereon to the Ministry of Health.

The evacuation of children has been accomplished with the minimum of friction, says the committee, which pays tribute to the spontaneous welcome with which the children were received particularly in mining villages in South Wales.

The report makes numerous recommendations concerning welfare work among the evacuated persons, several of which are already in operation.

The Ministry of Health attaches great importance to this phase of the committee's activities which has already in operation 518 social centres, 265 communal feeding centres, 443 occupational clubs, 189 residential nurseries and 130 maternity homes in the areas to which the evacuees have been transferred.—Reuter.

The Military Authorities announce that there will be no parade of the H.K.V.D.C. Training Cadre and Company on Chinese New Year, 27.1.41, and 28.1.41.

ANOTHER PROOF

THE AMERICAN PRESS HAS BEEN QUICK TO COMMENT ON THE ARRIVAL OF H.M.S. KING GEORGE V IN UNITED STATES WATERS.

The voyage is called "yet another convincing proof that Britain still rules the waves."

By bringing the ship to Annapolis, it is pointed out, it was possible for Lord Halifax to land as near as the great draught of the warship would permit.

CONVOYS FROM AMERICA

Some 3,770 vessels, carrying a deadweight tonnage of 22,200,000, were convoyed from the American side of the Atlantic in 1940, said Mr. Macdonald, Canadian Navy Minister, in Ottawa yesterday.—Reuter.

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John Justin - Rex Ingram - Mary Morris
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ITALIAN PRISONERS ARRIVING IN THEIR THOUSANDS

(From Reuter's Special Correspondent in Alexandria)

LIGHT UNITS OF THE British Navy, battling through waves whipped by sandstorms sweeping out to sea from the Desert, continue to pour their thousands of Italian prisoners into temporary camps at ports, including Alexandria.

Since the fall of Sidi Barrani 54,000 prisoners have been conveyed to Egyptian ports but yesterday's batch was the first from Tobruk.

As the ship bringing Tobruk prisoners approached the harbour port-holes were filled with heads with surprised faces gazing at convoys of lorries drawn up to escort them to camp—surprised because they had been told that Alexandria had been levelled to the ground.

Another illusion was that Italian armies were pushing victoriously through Greece.

The disembarkation was rapidly carried out as dust-covered figures in grey coats filed down the gangway carrying knapsacks, blankets and battered suitcases of varying sizes.

Cheerful Captives

Their equipment, and especially their boots, appeared to be in much better condition than that of captives from Sidi Barrani.

The captain of the ship told me that the prisoners had been very cheerful during the voyage, and after a meal the previous night had spent most of the night singing songs.

A number had offered to do jobs of work on board.

The only officer among this batch of prisoners was a young air force doctor, who, discussing Axis collaboration, said that "it was an agreement between two men but not two nations."

Before the lorries with their human load had reached the prison camp among the date palms the warship was already preparing to bring in further contingents of captives, who now number over 100,000.—Reuter.

ARMY NOW 'ALL FOR' A.T.S. GIRLS

"Those who were against them are now all for the girls in khaki. When this war is over I shall be sorry if I have to replace some of the A.T.S. women working with me by men."

An officer holding a high position in an executive branch of the Army in the North of England gave that opinion about the great A.T.S. "scandal."

"You can knock out the word 'scandal' at once," he said. "The only 'scandal' left, when all the criticism there has been is analysed, is the failure of many of us to realise sooner the great value of the work the A.T.S. could do, and is now doing, for this country as part of the British Army."

"In some military circles the A.T.S. was looked upon with suspicion."

"We thought it was merely going to give a lot of girls something to do and keep them amused during the war."

"Some of us thought they might answer a useful purpose by posting letters and making cups of tea."

"Well, we got a surprise. The girls were not satisfied to be letters and make the tea. They'd joined the Army to do real work for the country. They asked 'or more to do."

"Some of them do their work as better than men clerks. They have released thousands of men clerks for service with fighting units."

BLOOD DONOR'S RESCUE

Soon after he had given two pints of blood or patients in a local hospital, Scoutmaster George Wignall, 4th Bermonsey Troop, climbed a drainpipe to rescue a family believed trapped in a bombed house.

Although still weak from the blood transfusion, and able to use only one hand, he climbed up the drainpipe until it collapsed.

He fell to the ground, but broke into the house and hacked his way to the bedroom.

After putting out a fire he was overcome by fumes and collapsed. Members of his troop pulled him through the hole he had made in the ceiling.

Mr. Winnill's pluck, and the general courage of his Troop were

NEW GREEK THRUST MEETS SUCCESS

The Italians have been forced to withdraw to new strong positions much further in the rear, as a result of a new Greek thrust, states a Greek Press Ministry announcement quoted by Athens radio yesterday.

The Greek advance follows Thursday's capture of new heights, prisoners and material. It was marked by great bravery and stubborn determination, the announcement said.—Reuter.

commented on by General Sir John Shea, Scout Commissioner for London, when he visited Bermonsey Boy Scouts' Association headquarters.

Introduced to the General was sixteen-year-old Eric Young, who, seeing a bomb on the roof of a locked flat, clambered up a stack-pipe, clung to the guttering when the rope broke, and crawled on to the blazing roof and tore off tiles to smother the flames.

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With thousands of new characters, seven song hits and six adorable villains. See it now—so you can see it often.

MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



BURIED STOLEN PETROL

The maximum fine of £100 was imposed by the magistrates on Winifred Augusta Louise Jackson, wife of a naval captain, of Bishop's Walham, for receiving 12 gallons of stolen Army petrol.

Mrs. Jackson bought the petrol for 12s from a soldier, who took it to her house in three tins, which she buried in her garden. She denied the charge, saying she was unaware that the petrol was stolen.

Pte. Albert Seal was bound over for 12 months for stealing the petrol, and Capt. Jackson's son, 2nd Lt. Burton H. Jackson, who was charged jointly with Seal, was discharged.

BUS DRIVER COULD SEE FOR ONLY FIVE YARDS

Damages of £920 were awarded in the King's Bench Division to a man knocked down by a bus in a wet night last September.

Mr. Justice Hilbery said he was fully conscious of the difficulties of busmen. The driver in question had a visibility of five yards and his speed was such, that on a wet and slippery road, as he himself said, he could not have brought the bus to a standstill in under eight or nine yards. He was, therefore, going too fast for the limit of his vision.

JO-JO BROUGHT JOY TO THE A.F.S.

(By A Special Correspondent)

Miss Josephine Iris Miller had not been in the A.F.S. long before the men who worked with her in a London sub-station were calling her Jo, or Joey or Jo-Jo.

She was like that.

With her nineteen years of happy youth went a lovely smile from brown twinkling eyes and peach bloom cheeks under a mop of shining dark brown hair. They couldn't call her Miss Miller.

Jo was a sport. A girl with a love for fun and games when there was a lull, typical also in that when the bombs were falling she stuck to her job in the watch-room.

As the calm of the early days of war gave place to the hideous racket of blind bombing, she became the idol of her station.

Jo—even her mother and father called her Jo—lived just across the road from the station. She worked forty-eight hours on and twenty-four off.

She Found Secret

She kept the station alive with her smile.

A tom-boy she revelled in the men's games—football, cricket, billiards, a run round Parliament Fields at five in the morning with a station officer.

When Dick Whittington was in the watch room she used to wait him round the floor. Dick weighs twenty-odd stone.

All the firemen in North London knew her.

They will miss Jo now.

Jo was playing table tennis with an A.F.S. man the other night when bombs flung her across the room.

She had discovered the secret of living happily in a world that is upside down—and of making others happy, too.

She was killed, but any A.F.S. man in her district will tell you that Jo's-spirit lives on.

CONVICTION QUASHED

Because of misdirection of a jury by the Recorder at the Central Criminal Court in the case of Julius Wagner, who had been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment on a perjury charge, the Court of Criminal Appeal quashed the conviction and sentence.

The alleged perjury arose out of Wagner's cross-examination at Hendon Police Court by a rate collector.

The Lord Chief Justice (Lord Caldecote) said that Wagner's defence was that he misunderstood the material question. In his summing-up the Recorder put to the jury the matter in a form in which it was not put to Wagner.

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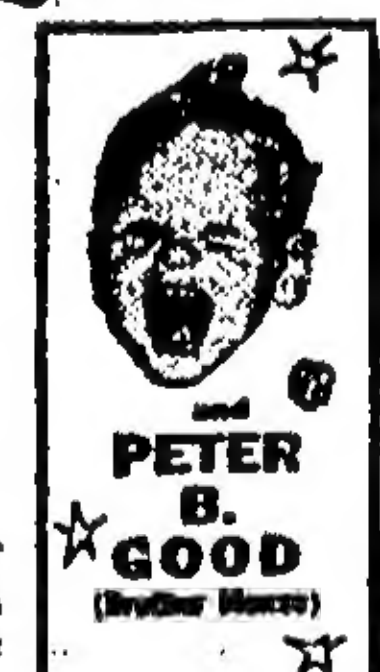
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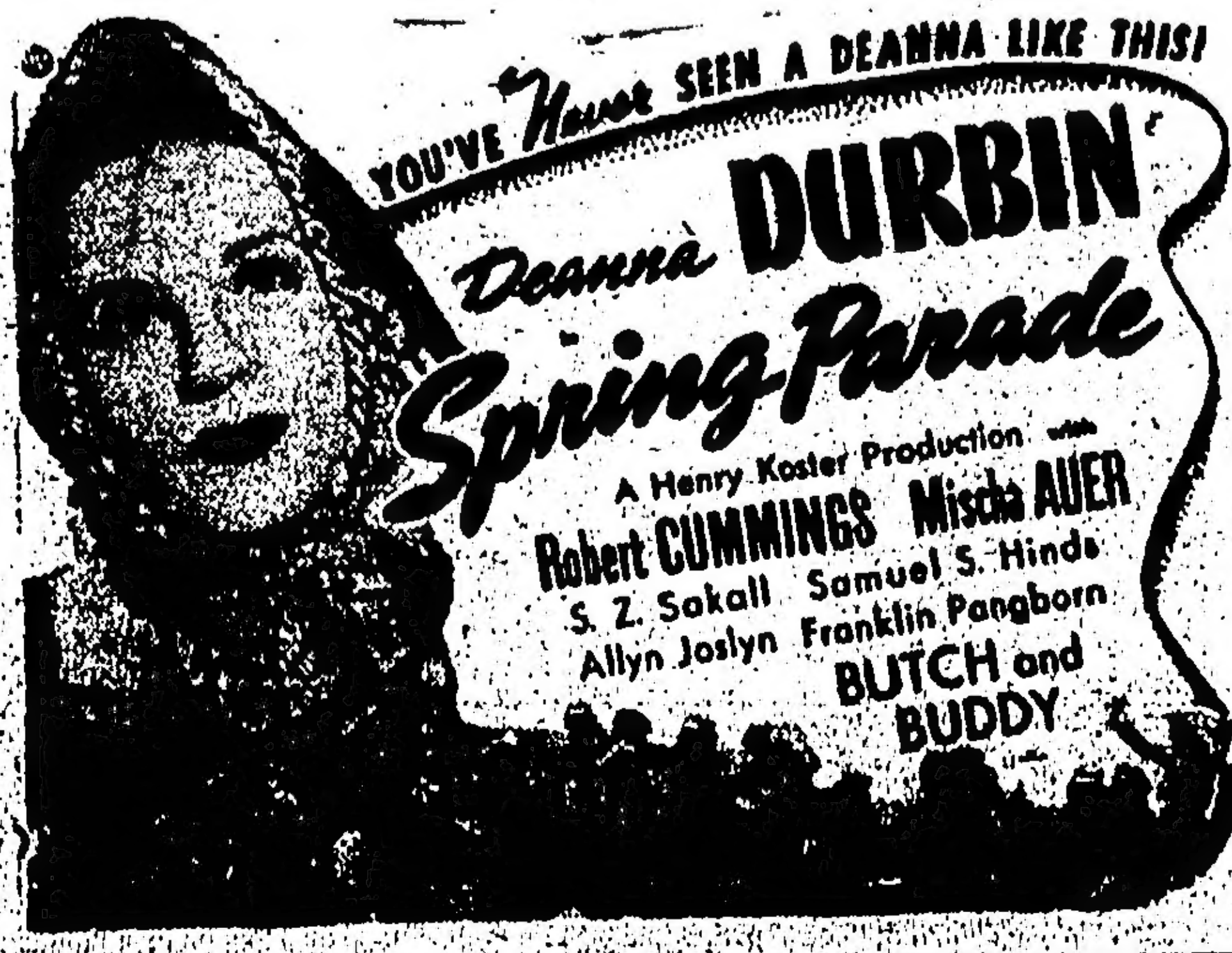
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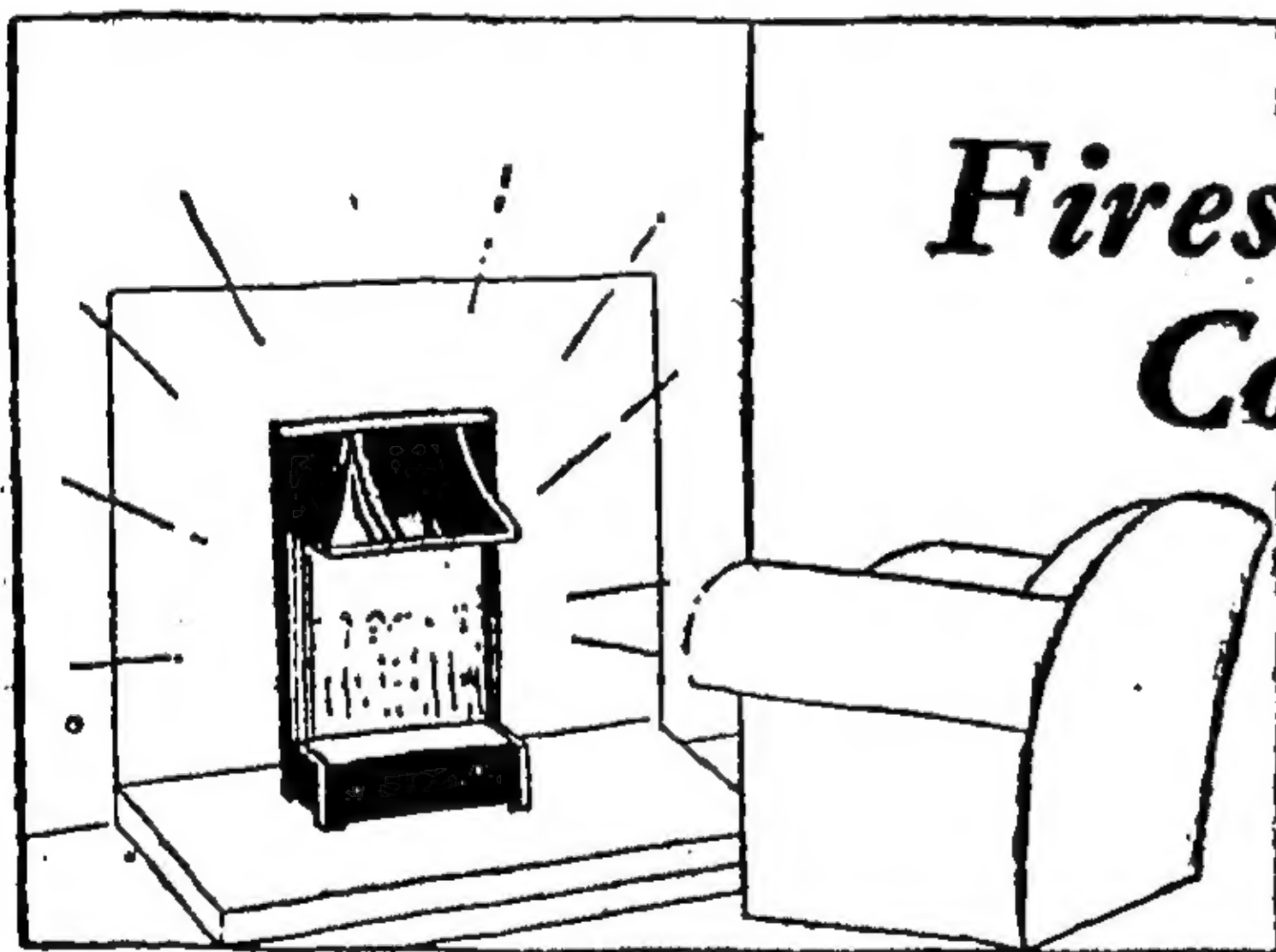
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June Duprez, as the alluring Princess of Basra, is kept from her true love by the black magic of Conrad Veldt, the sinister magician Jaffar, in "The Thief of Bagdad," now showing at the King's Theatre.

BRITAIN OBTAINED 970,000 OLD RIFLES FROM U.S.

THE EXTENT of American aid to Great Britain and her Allies in arms and munitions drawn from surplus stocks of Army material, was shown in a report to Congress by Secretary Stimson. The Army sold for \$22,929,438 guns, tanks, ammunition and other equipment in the year ended Oct. 15. The original cost was \$58,853,179.

None of it was sold to a belligerent, which would violate the laws. The bulk was sold to the United States Steel Corporation, in deals which ended for the most part in sales by the corporation to Britain or the dominions. Some of the guns had been bought from Britain when this country entered the World War.

Aeroplanes did not figure in the report, since the War Department has not sold any to which it had taken title.

The procedure was laid down by President Roosevelt for disposal of the material which was considered obsolete for American use but still serviceable.

World War Rifles Largest Item

The largest category was of rifles of World War design, mostly used. The War Department disposed of 970,000 out of stocks estimated at 2,000,000. The rifles, which were desired by Britain for training the Home Guard, are being replaced in the American Army by the Garand automatic rifle. The total price was \$8,126,000, standard models selling for \$7.50 each, while 25,000 automatics commanded \$60.76 each.

Excepting limited deliveries to Finland, Panama, Nicaragua and El Salvador, other sales included the following:

Machine guns—14,494, for \$1,281,778, including Lewis guns, at \$33.92 each; Vickers guns at \$131.23 each, and Marlins at \$74.35 each.

Anti-aircraft machine-guns—62,988 for \$1,954,848; Vickers and Lewis models at \$33.92 each, and Marlins at \$23.16.

Revolvers—200,500, for \$150,275.

Heavier equipment—316 three-inch Stokes mortars for \$3,950,000; 395 75-mm guns with limbers and sights for \$603,402; 500 other 75-mm guns in better condition for \$2,243,750, and 10,000 Browning machine-guns for \$2,514,000.

Ammunition—98,113 Stokes mortar shells for \$125,504, 17,718, 500 pounds of TNT for \$2,637,475, 1,281,140 rounds of 30-caliber revolver cartridges for \$25,622, and 10,148,107 rounds of .30-caliber machine-gun ammunition for \$304,443.

Miscellaneous—1,350 75-mm caissons, 1,350 75-mm limbers, 10,200 tripods, 100,000 ammunition belts, 100,000 ammunition chests, 10,000 water chests, 10,000 steam condensers, 3,333 belt feeding machines, 1,000,000 magazines, 18,000 Lewis

machine-gun barrels and 30,000 Lewis machine-gun magazines.

Sales To Other Countries

Direct sales to foreign governments follow:

To Finland—200 75-mm guns for \$305,520; 32 eight-inch howitzers for \$233,049; 9,200 eight-inch projectiles and 11,000 eight-inch fuses for \$122,176.

To Panama—1,000 .30 caliber rifles for \$12,500.

To Nicaragua—5,000 .30 caliber rifles for \$62,500 and 50 Lewis machine-guns for \$1,896.

To El Salvador—10,000 .30 caliber rifles for \$125,000.

The total sales to these foreign countries totaled \$862,441.

FASCIST FINED FOR LIGHTS

Formerly Lake District representative of the British Union of Fascists and a member of the Link, James Lloyd, of Cornwall Road, Ruislip, Middlesex, was at Uxbridge ordered to pay £31.0s. 6d. fine and costs when he was found guilty of flashing a torch during a raid and of having a lighted bonfire showing.

"This is the worst case we have ever had before us," said the chairman of the Bench.

Nazi Salute

"I shall have to go to prison. I have two children and a wife to keep," declared Lloyd, who was given a week in which to pay.

He left the court giving the Nazi salute and shouting "Is this justice?"

A warden said he saw a bonfire in Lloyd's garden, and that Lloyd was slow in getting water to put the fire out. Later he flashed a torch at the sky and over the house.

Lloyd pleaded that he had just moved into the house and was burning rubbish.

HITLER'S BUMPS OF MURDER

"If Hitler had come under my hands years ago, I might have put him on the track of otherwise gratifying his abnormal ambition, and probably prevented this catastrophe."

This remarkable claim was made by Britain's foremost famous phrenologist, Professor J. Millott Severn, F.B.P.S.

Professor Severn has unbounded faith in phrenology. So much so that he married only after he had studied his prospective bride phrenologically.

That was over 50 years ago, and to-day Professor Severn has still no regrets for his scientifically planned marriage.

Head Analysed

He has studied all the available photographs of Hitler's head, and claims by this means to have worked out a complete analysis of the Nazi dictator's mentality.

It is untrue, he said, that Hitler has any great planning ability. "His head slants in the upper part of the forehead in which the reasoning faculties are located," he pointed out.

"His head is fairly large, endowing him with a good deal of available mental power, but not in respect to planning and reasoning. There is much that is abnormal in his mental make-up, so that his abilities have been applied to wholesale murder and destruction."

Prominent Brows

Hitler's prominent brows, the Professor said, make him exceedingly observant. He is eager, alert and practical. He rapidly jumps to conclusions and acts spontaneously.

"His large sublimity and self-esteem," said Professor Severn, made him desire to be associated with big concerns and be at the head of them. But his dreams of world domination are beyond his capacities to reason.

"The height of the head in the regions of Self-Esteem and Firmness give him a wilful, dogmatic, dictatorial nature."

The width of head at the base made Hitler a relentless destroyer.

Fears Death

He is deficient in veneration, and has little domestic and social affection. Bluff, audacity and arrogance are the secrets of his success, not military ability. Professor Severn believes Hitler could have been a great orator—one of the greatest in history. Instead, "he will be regarded as the most callous, ignoble, bombastic, unscrupulous and ruthless murderer of all time."

The Professor concluded his analysis with a cheering thought. Hitler has an intense love of life, he said. Death will be hard to him when it comes.

HUMPHREYS' ESTATE DIVIDEND

Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd. announce that the net profit for the year ended 31st December, 1940, after deducting Directors' and General Managers' remuneration, and including \$36,339.58 brought forward from last account amounts to \$217,812.17, which the Directors will recommend at the forthcoming Annual Meeting of Shareholders be allocated as follows:

Pay a dividend of 7% on 200,000 shares	\$140,000.00
Transfer to General Reserve	25,000.00
Transfer to Building Improvement Account	3,027.50
(Bringing same up to \$75,000.00)	
Transfer to Special Repairs and Renewals Account	10,277.00
(Bringing same up to \$15,000.00)	
And carry forward	39,507.67
	\$217,812.17
Total	\$217,812.17

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

WHERE NEXT?

As far back as November, Italy was experiencing some of those humiliating setbacks which have now obliged her to submit her fighting forces to German control. When Italy began her memorable retreat in Albania, conjecture was rife as to what action Hitler would take in regard to his partner and it is interesting to note that to-day, after weeks of apparent indecision, the German Fuehrer is still in much the same position as he was then. It is true he is reported to have moved his troops here and there, but when all is said and done these movements amount to little. At the most they appear to be more of a precautionary measure in case he decides on their use in any particular part of Europe.

As Hitler's military moves during the past two months have not proved to be of a very serious nature, his great diplomatic offensive, which he has undoubtedly been waging with great energy, has also apparently not been greatly successful. France has not yet joined the Axis though Marshal Petain has, after weeks of negotiating and pressure by Germany, agreed to smooth over his disagreement with M. Laval, the most ardent German supporter. Spain likewise, is lukewarm. Much as she would like to possess Gibraltar and Morocco with suzerainty over Portugal, General Franco is not altogether sure that these aspirations would be gratified even if Germany won. A starving country, dependent almost entirely upon outside supplies, is also hardly in a position to bite the hand which feeds her. In other words, the country, suffering as it still is from the results of civil war, is almost entirely dependent on the wheat allowed in by Great Britain, which would certainly be stopped should Spain enter on the side of Germany. King Boris has until now held off from signing on the dotted line, though it may be he could be forced to do so should German troops demand a right-of-way through Bulgaria. It has been suggested that Russia, interested in Bulgaria, bought Germany off by the recent Soviet-German economic pact. Whether this is the case or not cannot be verified, but Germany has not made the anticipated entry into Bulgaria.

With all these problems unsettled, Hitler is losing valuable time. He is a cautious man and has generally shown himself prepared for every emergency before he takes action, but at this stage of developments to hesitate too long may spell disaster. His latest step, and to judge by the time it has taken him to decide it shows very great reluctance, is to help Italy by sending an air force to bolster up the failing courage of the Italian armies. This step is, however, strangely late if Hitler seriously intended to give Mussolini the help he so badly needs. Is it possible that Hitler, realising the inadequacy of his partner months ago—and who could be in a better position than he to know the real facts—decided to cut loose from a man likely to drag him down? Was his delay an act of revenge for Italy's ill-conceived adventure in Greece? Or has he decided that Italy is no longer in a position to withstand any demands he may like to make? Hitler, with Mussolini hastening ignominiously to Berchtesgaden instead of to Brenner Pass—the memory of which must be wormwood and gall—to crave aid in his extremity, has at least extended his domain to the Mediterranean shores. Germany has always looked in that direction, but the sweet has been soured by the fact that Hitler is now brought to the stage when he must face opposition on two fronts—a position he has consistently endeavoured to avoid.

Alaska hums to-day with activity such as it has not seen since the gold rush. Bulldozers hack the frozen ground into huge landing fields. Blue smoke from burning stump piles mingles with the clouds of dust kicked up by mammoth trucks loaded with structural steel for ammunition sheds and hangars. Barracks rise against the background of snow-capped peaks.

What's all the excitement?

Between Alaska and Soviet Russia are only 56 miles of open water. Dominating the entire Bering Strait is the carefully guarded Russian base at East Cape. Below it is the Gulf of Anadyr, where a fully equipped naval and air base is less than 100 miles from our shores. A bit farther south are a dozen more air stations. On the Komandorskie Islands, 280 miles from our Aleutian chain, is a vital Soviet submarine base where German officers assist in training the crews. And off the tip of Kamchatka is a huge Japanese naval base on Paramoshiri Island, only 700 miles from U.S. territory.

Perhaps these Russian and Japanese bases are aimed at each other. Perhaps the Japan-Nazi pact holds no threat for our Pacific Northwest. Perhaps there is no menace in the fact that the new Great Northern Sea Route and Stalin Air Route, whose commercial planes fly daily within 60 miles of the United States, makes Russia the most important military power at the top of the world.

But our Army and Navy are taking no chances. A joint Russo-Japanese attack on the U.S. through Alaska, while Hitler strikes from the Atlantic, would be no more impossible than all the other impossible things which have happened in the past year.

You hear stories in Alaska these days. The story of a Russian air base on Big Diomed Island, separated by only a mile of open water from America's Little Diomed, was a result of hysteria, as you could see at a glance by flying as I did over the boulder-strewn island. "Why should Russia build a landing field out here," your pilot asks significantly, "when she's got a perfectly good air base on the mainland less than 50 miles away?"

Remember that much-discussed good-will flight from Tokyo to Washington, several years ago? When Japan requested permission to locate a few observation parties along the Aleutian chain just to thumb the "plane on its way," Washington acquiesced. Little groups of Japanese arrived. To pass the time while waiting for the "plane," they went fishing. They fished in odd places, the natives say, and used curious tackle consisting of a long line and a sounding lead.

Stories, rumour, hearsay. Of the German and Japanese walking parties that toured Alaska last summer. Of the workman on the new naval base at Kodiak who tried to organise a Bund during his spare hours. Of the well-liked little Japanese laundryman at Sitka who died recently and was buried, to the surprise of the authorities, in the official uniform of a commander of the Japanese navy.

Perhaps they are only rumours. Nevertheless, the threat is there. That is why \$50,000,000—more than six times the original cost of the Territory—has been hurriedly appropriated for Alaskan defence. That is why, after half a century of Congressional neglect of Alaska, the Army and Navy are working 24 hours a day seven days a week to make up for lost time. "We are trying to buy days with dollars," military officials put it.

Even if an enemy did storm the half-billion-dollar defences at

Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, he would still be 2,500 miles from California. South-eastern Alaska, however, is only 700 miles from Seattle, little more than the distance from London to Berlin, three hours' easy bomber flight. The whole Pacific Coast and even parts of the Middle West would be within range of long-distance bombers based in Alaska.

A small enemy force could hold Alaska against enormous odds. Her narrow fjords and hidden harbours, free from ice all year, afford ideal protection; and supplies could be brought in readily. Norway, with a similar coast line, was held by a handful of Nazis despite everything the British could throw against them—and in the event of trouble our Navy would be needed in a dozen other places.

"It's a whole lot easier to keep them from getting in," the Army

Obviously the only way to defend a country like this is by a series of Navy air and submarine bases strategically located along the coast, and Army air bases in the interior, each with its own garrison, each independent of the others; trained pilots, broken to winter flying; and 'planes, 'planes, 'planes.

Building an air base in Alaska is a man-sized job. Problems crop up daily that would never occur in the States. Every last nail has to be shipped by boat from Seattle. Any change in plans, any error in shipment means a delay of weeks. Mining engineers told the Army they could not move frozen dirt at 30 below. But the Army had to do it and so they did it.

Materials are arriving at the rate of 100 tons a day for the great \$13,000,000 Anchorage Army base, a stronghold two miles

ed at the Army and Navy strongholds. The CAA is also developing scores of civilian pilots each year, trained to operate on wheels, floats and skis. In time of emergency they may form a vital Alaskan home guard.

The Navy's programme for the defence of Alaska's 26,000 miles of coast line, much of it still uncharted, is starting virtually from scratch. Dutch Harbour in the Aleutians is the strategic crossroads between the Pacific and the Bering Sea. Yet it was not until late last summer that Congress appropriated funds for a base there. Planned as one of the Navy's three key bases in the north, Dutch Harbour, when completed several years hence, will be able to accommodate the entire North Pacific fleet.

More encouraging is progress at Kodiak, 500 miles east, where for three years the Navy has been constructing its biggest Alaska submarine base. Judging from the nearly completed seaplane ramps, docks and hangars, this stronghold will soon become a Pearl Harbour of the north. Work progresses rapidly, too, at Sitka, guarding the famous Inside Passage—logical point of attack by water if Kodiak and Dutch Harbour are made impregnable.

The Army learned some things from the Finnish campaign, but Alaska flying has problems all its own. And the only way to solve them is by practical experience. The Fairbanks base will be the Air Corps' experimental flying station this winter; a complete cold-weather detachment has been sent there, a full year ahead of schedule. Here they will develop methods of warming engines in extreme weather, and thawing movable parts—even machine-guns and metal bombsights often need special adjustment at 50 or 60 below. Here they will devise new types of Arctic flying clothes, to be made by natives in the Indian missions. They will have the advice of sourdough Alaskan pilots who have been outwitting Arctic weather ever since the late Ben Eielson flew his first Jenny over Fairbanks more than 20 years ago.

And while the Army pilots are learning to outwit Alaskan weather in the air, the newly arrived infantrymen are being taught to buck it on the ground. At the Anchorage air base, under command of Brigadier General Simon Buckner, some 6,500 soldiers are facing their first winter in the north—drawing cowhands from Texas and gangling farmers from Carolina and Alabama, many of them seeing snow for the first time.

General Buckner is planning elaborate manoeuvres on skis this winter in order to teach the men to bivouac in the mountains and live amid cold and snow. Veteran Alaskan skiers and noted mountain climbers are volunteering as instructors in this task. Old dog mushers from the Yukon are being brought down to teach raw recruits how to handle dog teams.

From weather-beaten trappers and prospectors General Buckner is picking up odd bits of information about Alaskan winters; hints on how to camp out safely at 20 or 30 below, how to rove in the cold, how to avoid frozen faces and hands.

These Army pilots fresh from Shreveport or March Field, these infantrymen from Texas or Alabama are fast learning the ways of the North. And by next spring they will be ready, should the need arise, to defend the Territory against any invasion in any weather.

Uncle Sam Arms Alaska

Corey Ford And Alastair MacBain



MAKING THE TIME BOMB THAT WILL WIN THE WAR.

says significantly, "than it would be later to get them out."

How to keep them out, then? Here is a vast country of over 600,000 square miles, fully a fifth the size of the whole United States; and yet up to now it has been guarded by a few Coast Guard boats which sail south every winter, and by a single garrison of some 300 men at Chilkoot Barracks. Thousands of square miles of Alaska are still uninhabited. Parachute troops could land anywhere undetected. In summer the interior is a network of lakes, offering innumerable landing places for pontoon planes. In winter caterpillar tractors could run at will over the frozen tundra. Along the whole thousand miles of Aleutian Islands are only three native villages. There are places in Alaska where an enemy might set up a base and occupy it for months before his presence became known.

square, surrounded by 40 square miles of government reserve. Its 10,000-foot concrete runways will accommodate the Army's biggest ships and when it is finished next year it will base the major portion of Alaska's permanent air corps. Three other Army bases have also been started.

A vast network of Civil Aeronautics Authority emergency fields are being scattered strategically over the Territory. One, for example, at Point Barrow will guard against possible transpolar invasion from Europe, others on the Seward Peninsula near Nome will offset any Siberian threat. Every fair-sized settlement already has a commercial landing place of sorts—to accommodate planes carrying trappers, salesmen and merchandise. The CAA has embarked on a full-time programme to improve and enlarge such fields. This will substantially enlarge the patrolling radius of planes bas-

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AID BRITAIN BILL MAY BE ONLY DELAYED

AS THE LAWMAKERS straggle into Washington, it becomes increasingly clear that in the new Congress the isolationist group will prove more vocal than numerous. After incomplete but indicative preliminary canvasses, both Democratic and Republican leaders agree in predicting the isolationists will delay the President's programme by debate, but cannot muster the strength to beat it when voting time comes.

Indeed, in private talk, more than one isolationist chieftain has already conceded the success of the President's "lease-lending" scheme for giving the British war materials, his only specific proposal revealed to date.

The isolationists' inherent weakness is disclosed by their tendency to retreat and re-form their lines on what they regard as safer territory. Until last spring, most of them were opposed to a strong national defence programme. Then this salient proved too exposed, and was abandoned. Until very recently, most of them were also opposed to the principle of aid for Britain short of war. Now aid for Britain is receiving varying degrees of lip-service from Henry Ford, Joseph P. Kennedy, Representative Hamilton Fish, Gen. Robert Wood, of the American-First Committee, and many other isolationist leaders. There is some evidence of concerted action in this second retreat. But whether concerted or no, it plainly suggests the line to be taken by the isolationists in Congress.

Senate The Stronghold

The Senate is the stronghold of the Congressional isolationists. Here Senators Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana; Bennett Champ Clark, of Missouri; Gerald P. Nye, of North Dakota; Edwin Johnson, of Colorado, and Pat McCarran, of Nevada, have already constituted themselves an informal steering committee, loosely patterning their procedure on that of the opposition in the court fight. Leadership has again been granted to Wheeler, a remarkably astute and ruthless legislative strategist. New recruits will be added to the group from time to time, several of them as soon as Congress is in session.

From this group, and particularly from Senator Wheeler, have come the bulk of the isolationist statements, which have recently made casual headline readers believe the isolationists must have great Congressional power. They seem to have tried, quite consciously and as a matter of strategy to make up in noise what they lacked in numbers. Most of them even remained in Washington over the holidays, with the apparent purpose of being always on tap to make a statement or a speech.

"Step Toward War"

When the lease-lending scheme comes before the Senate, they will, of course, oppose it, but their loudest outcries will be against "another step toward war" and "weakening our own defence." Some members of the opposition may imitate Ford and Kennedy in indorsing the aid-for-Britain principle, and the frontal attack on it will be far less important than the side-swiping. Meanwhile, the isolationists will wait to rally their greatest force for the fights they think they have a substantial chance of winning—on such issues as changes in the neutrality act, American solutions of the British shipping problem, and the like.

On the whole, if the President's timing is good and his planning effective, the odds appear to be against the isolationists even in the fights they hope to win. For one thing, their support in the country is not always of the most encouraging type. The no-foreign-war committee of the Iowa editor, Verne Marshall, for example, was supposed to be a potent agency of isolationism. Yet Marshall turned out to be a slightly comic figure, associated with a highly unsavory oil speculator with strong German connections, and unlikely to be much help to any one.

According to report, Marshall's lunch at the capital was one of the best scenes on record in the political farce. Senators McCarran, Rush Dew Holt, of West Virginia, and several others assembled to meet the great Marshall.

All was amiability and concord at the start. But before lunch was half over Marshall had behaved so oddly a loud row was in progress, and in the end McCarran is said to have walked out in a huff.

Finally a certain lack of self-confidence among the less brash isolationists deserves to be noted. In the summer of 1939, when Senator William E. Borah convinced a majority of the Senate there would be no war and refused to examine State Department evidence to the contrary, isolationist self-confidence reached the point of arrogance. The sad proof of Borah's unwisdom left an after-taste of uncertainty, chiefly among such middle-of-the-roads as the wise Republican leader, Charles L. McNary, of Oregon. To those who know the ways of Congress, it is notable that no official eulogy of Borah was delivered during the last session. As one man explained, "It wouldn't have been timely just then."

No Popular Support

This slight failure of self-confidence is visible in the isolationists' drive for a "negotiated peace," the idea for which is laid at the joint doors of Senator Wheeler and Joe Kennedy. As any one who has read Senator Wheeler's proposed peace terms must realise, this drive is straight shadow-boxing, primarily intended to make a record. Other similar gestures are to be expected. But while the isolationists can organise as the court fight opposition organised, and shower the country with statements as the men who fought the court bill did, and employ the same clever, Wheelerish devices, they cannot succeed without the popular support which beat the court bill in the end.

SPITFIRE GOT IN A NAZI SQUADRON

A Spitfire pilot, instead of joining his own squadron above London, found he had fallen in behind six Messerschmidts and was protecting them from astern.

He was weaving above his squadron over South-eastern London when he was sent off to identify an enemy formation. It was when he came back to direct the remaining Spitfires to the attack that he joined up with the enemy formation.

"When I realised what I was doing," he said "I got a shock. I went in to attack double-quick."

"I fired at one Messerschmidt, which dropped back, and I also lost some ground."

"By the time we got to Hastings I had caught the rest of them up again and knocked bits off one. Another was half a mile or more below and behind the others as they crossed the coast."

"He was dropping back rapidly and I was hoping to finish him off when six more Messerschmidt 109s came down at me from over the Channel in line."

"They circled round me and I went for the one bringing up the rear."

"He climbed steeply, but I gave him a burst of fire from underneath and he just rolled over and went straight down."

"The leader was still worrying me, so I went into a steep turn and lost consciousness. When I recovered, there was no more enemy in sight."

MISSED AT 6 IN. RANGE

John Herbert Hughes, 33-year-old soldier, gave a demonstration with his rifle in court at Shropshire Assizes and was then found "Not guilty" of attempting to shoot with intent to murder a girl in a dance hall.

"It is a case of diamond cut diamond," said the Judge. "If the man really wanted to shoot the girl it is difficult to see how he could miss, when the girl said the gun was only six inches away."



In this dramatic scene John Justin, once a powerful prince and now a beggar through the sinister practices of a wily magician, is being tortured in Oriental fashion in a stirring sequence from Alexander Korda's technicolour spectacle "The Thief of Bagdad," now at the King's Theatre.

WED EIGHTEEN HOURS, DIED FOR A DOG

HARRY TOBIN was fond of dogs—and eighteen hours after his wedding, he died trying to save one from the sea. He was on honeymoon at Blackpool, walking on the promenade to meet his bride at a friend's home.

Whistling happily, he quickened his pace. Every second of the day was precious. The R.A.F. had given him two days' leave to wed. To-morrow he and his bride would part.

Suddenly he stopped. People were trying to rescue a dog from the sea.

Harry thought of his own pet, a Scotch terrier, as the dog struggled helpless in the water.

At once he went to the rescue. But as he ran down a launching slope a breaker knocked him off his feet and swept him into the sea.

Romantic Wedding

Another man plunged into the sea and tried unsuccessfully for an hour and a half to save Harry.

Meanwhile Mrs. Tobin—Miss Winifred Irene Clarke, twenty-two, of Milford-drive, Levenshulme, Manchester—was waiting at her friend's house wondering what had delayed her husband.

As she waited she thought of the romantic marriage the day before.

Harry—his full name was Harold Brumby Tobin, thirty—had been a draper. He lived in Moston-lane, Harpurhey, Manchester.

A fortnight before he had joined the R.A.F. Their wedding plans seemed to be in danger.

Then Harry was granted two day's leave to wed.

Almost directly from St. Andrew's Church, Levenshulme, they left for Blackpool.

Friends Told Her

Just before noon friends told Mrs. Tobin that she was a widow.

They told how Joe Horovitch, a plumber of Dickson Road, Blackpool, had plunged in after Harry, but was unable to reach him. Horovitch himself was so exhausted that he had to discard nearly all his clothing to reach lifebelts thrown to him.

He was in the sea an hour and a half before Blackpool lifeboat, which put to sea under the greatest difficulties, picked him up.

Harry's body was recovered several hours after the tragedy.

"He could only swim a few strokes, but it was just the sort of thing I should expect him to do," a friend told a reporter.

Nursing in her arms her husband's Scottish terrier, Mac, the broken-hearted widow said:

"Harold recently came home in great grief—Fritz, his sister's dog, which he used to take for walks with his own, had been run over by a bus. It was a long time before he got over the shock. He was passionate fond of dogs."

Mrs. Tobin said: "Yesterday was the happiest day of my son's life. He had so much to look forward to. I cannot realise that such happiness could be destroyed so suddenly. It is too terrible."

"HEIL HITLER" NOTE IN CINEMA

A note, signed "Two Tramps of Watford," and bearing a Swastika sign, with "Heil Hitler" written underneath, was read at Watford.

In the dock were two soldiers, Arthur Delva (21) and David Minton (34), and they were remanded on a charge of breaking and entering the Empire Cinema, Watford, and stealing cigarettes, chocolates, and money.

Police-constable Wright gave evidence of finding in an office an empty whisky bottle, some cake, and note, which stated: "Dear Sir, or Madam,—Thank you very much for the very enjoyable evening, but next time please keep the safe unlocked."

CONFESSED TO MURDER OF GIRL

After a dramatic appeal by the girl's parents, who confronted him at the police station, Thomas Conroy, a New York janitor, has confessed to the murder of 10-year-old Genevieve Connolly.

Conroy was confronted with Mr. and Mrs. Connolly after 12 hours' questioning by the police.

"Tom, if you have any idea where our daughter is, tell us, and may God help you."

When the parents were out of the room, Conroy turned to the police and said: "I want to get this off my conscience."

He declared he had slain the child and burned her body in the furnace of the tenement building of which he was janitor.

Conroy, who went to the United States from Ireland in 1920, refused to give any motive for the crime.

REFUSED £250 A YEAR

A trade union leader who refused a pension of £250 a year has died. He was Mr. W. A. Appleton, eighty, of Ashwell, Herts.

Mr. Appleton was secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions for thirty-one years.

When he retired he declined a pension of £250 a year, saying he would not accept allowances.

GAOLED GANGSTER ATE WITH A STAR

Lunch in a Hollywood cafe with glamorous British film star Wendy Barrie was among the joys of gangland's alleged "executioner," Benny Buxie Siegel during his "imprisonment" in Los Angeles gaol.

Angry officials are investigating Buxie's prison life as more information reaches them regarding his lordly existence there with a valet.

Plug-ugly Buxie, former member of the New York gangster syndicate known as "Murder Incorporated," has been held in gaol on an indictment of murdering Harry Greenberg on the syndicate's behalf.

On one of nine excursions from prison with Guard James Pascoe "to visit a dentist," Buxie entered the exclusive Wilshire Boulevard Cafe. There he and his guard ate and chatted with Wendy Barrie.

Pascoe says he removed Buxie's handcuffs before the meeting.

In prison Buxie was thoughtfully provided with a prisoner who acted as a valet.

He had expensive meals, which included such delicacies as roast pheasant, turkey and oysters.

He had access to a wardrobe of twenty tailor-made suits.

Wendy Barrie said: "It is true Pascoe brought Siegel to my table in the cafe. I have met Siegel before but I do not remember where. I have known Pascoe over two years."

£37 GOWNS IN DEMAND

Mrs. Well-to-do still dresses for dinner—in a thirty-five-guinea gown.

Though Mayfair may have moved to its luxury country residences, Mayfair still carries on.

London's exclusive dress salons are as busy as they were in peace time.

But in the interests of "democracy," writes a woman reporter, "Mrs. Well-to-do no longer wears the more extravagant and expensive-looking pre-war evening creations, but adopts what she calls a 'dinner gown'."

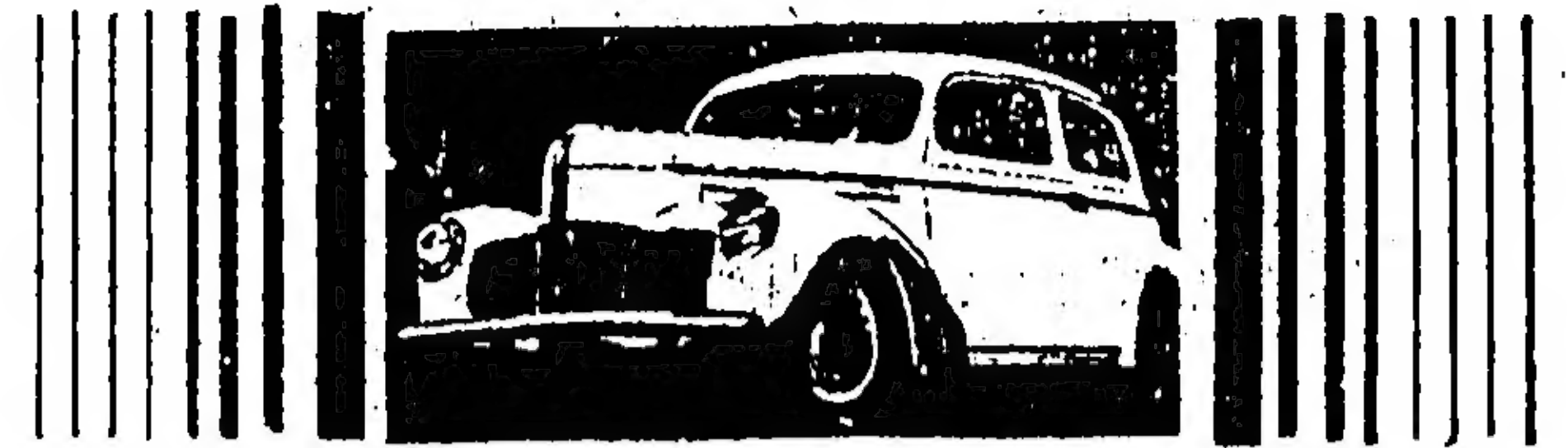
"Even though people are evacuated they still like to dress for dinner." I was told at one of London's first-class dress salons.

"Prices for dinner gowns work out from twenty-five to forty guineas—about the same as they do for the old style evening dress."

"The dinner gown is considered more in keeping though with the situation. It is altogether on simpler lines, but as good a quality."

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BANK HOLIDAYS

In accordance with Government Ordinance, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 27th and 28th January, 1941. (China New Year Holidays).
Hong Kong, 22nd January, 1941.

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Business Houses are hereby warned that all payments in connection with the 1941 edition of The Hong Kong Dollar Directory should be made at the Offices of the publishers, through the post or by chit book.

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IN SHELTER—HER WEDDING NIGHT

(By A Special Correspondent)

Bombed out of her home twice in a fortnight, a twenty-year-old bride spent the first night of her wedding with her soldier husband in an underground air-raid shelter at Heston (Middlesex). The parents of both the bride and the bridegroom sat at their side.

The girl was Irene Bavin, of Southwell Road, Camberwell, S.E. A few hours after the wedding she and her bridesmaids took off their silk dresses, put on day frocks, and went to the shelter.

The young husband, Lance-Corporal Herbert Kitchen Knightley, twenty-four, of West-way, Heston, blushed when the 200 men, women and children in the shelter called out good wishes as the bridal party walked down the steps. Then, while A.A. guns bombed outside, relatives drank their health as they sat on benches along the walls.

"It is not a bit like I imagined my wedding night would be a few weeks ago," the bride said before she and her husband settled down for the night, with travelling rugs around their shoulders.

"We're Lucky"

"But I suppose we were lucky to have a wedding at all. My family and I were bombed out of our home at Brixton. Then we moved to a relation nearby, and were bombed out of their home, too. So we came to live with Herbert's mother."

She turned to her husband. "But we are happy dear, aren't we?"

"Yes," replied Lance-Corporal Knightley, "and still keeping our chins up."

The bride did not know until the previous day whether the young soldier would be able to get leave for the wedding, although the date had been fixed and the banns read.

"I'm not particular on going to the shelter," Lance-Corporal Knightley said, "but it is better for Irene."

"I expect most of our honeymoon nights will be spent here, but she is coming away with me."

at the end of the week for a few days."

Said his mother: "I lost a little daughter in the air-raids on London during the last war. I did not dream that my son and his wife would have to spend their wedding night in an air-raid shelter in another war."

HIS BAD WORK COST HIM £100

An aircraft fitter who deliberately did bad work because he wished to be discharged was fined £100 with the alternative of three months' gaol if the fine is not paid in a month.

He is Harry Dyson, thirty-six, of Lytham Road, Blackpool, who pleaded guilty to trying to impair the efficiency of an aircraft intended to be used in his Majesty's service.

Mr. E. Rowton, for the defence, said that Dyson had obtained an offer of work which he preferred to his present work, but was unable to get his discharge. He became very careless in his work in the hope of being sacked.

The Bench said they were of the opinion that the offence had not been committed with the intent of assisting the enemy, but they thought Dyson had been guilty of a crime far worse than carelessness.

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BRIDGE NOTES

BRIDGE SWINDLES — NO. 23

By The Four Aces

One of the most useful weapons in the armoury of the accomplished Bridge Swindler is the "fake finesse." South used it in to-day's hand to get away with an otherwise impossible game.

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ 6 2
♥ A Q 9 6 3
♦ 8 3
♣ Q 9 6 5
A A 10 7 3 N ♠ 5
10 2 W E ♥ J 8 7 5
K Q J 4 S ♦ 4
A 2 ♣ J 8 7 4
K Q J 9 8 4
K
A 6 2
K 10 3

The Bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass

West opened the King of diamonds, East played the seven, and South dropped the five. West couldn't tell whether or not his partner's seven of diamonds was a signal to continue, but couldn't think of anything better than a diamond continuation; and South won with the Ace of diamonds.

At this point South led the ten of clubs, as though intending to let it ride for a finesse. If West had taken even a second to think about it, he'd have stepped up at once with the Ace of clubs; for that would assure him two tricks in the side suits in addition to the two trump tricks he was bound to get eventually. But West dropped his low club as quickly as he could "to let South make a mistake."

Unluckily for West, however, South wasn't out to make mistakes. Dummy's Queen of clubs won the trick, and South cashed the King of hearts, ruffed the losing diamond to enter the dummy again, and hastily discarded his remaining two clubs on dummy's high hearts. West, of course, could take only two trump tricks whether he ruffed or discarded. The "fake finesse" had allowed South to avoid the loss of a club trick.

Yesterday you were Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

♠ K J 9 7 3
♥ 8 6 2
♦ 10 4
♣ 10 9 2

The bidding:
Schenken Burnstone You Jacoby
1♠ Pass (7)

ANSWER: Bid one spade. The hand is a weak one, but your bid doesn't increase the bidding level and points to what is probably a better trump suit. One no-trump would be a terrible response (even a pass would be better) because it completely misstates the nature of the meagre strength held.

Score 100 % for the spade, 40 % for pass, 0 for one no-trump.

Question No. 623

To-day you hold the same hand, and the bidding continues:

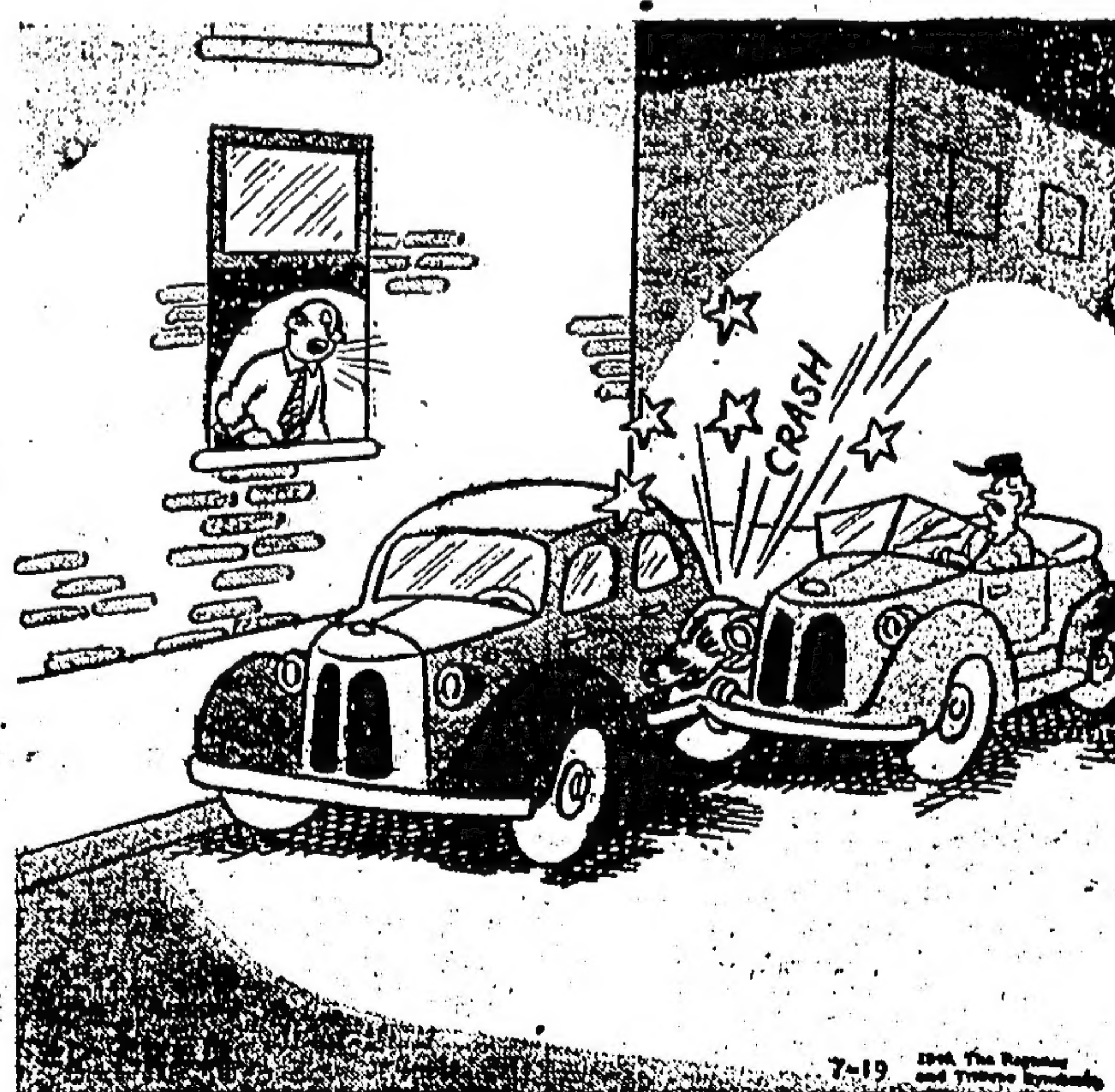
Schenken	Burnstone	You	Jacoby
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	(7)

What do you bid? (Answer

Tuesday.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"Yes lady, that's my car—and it's not my fault!"

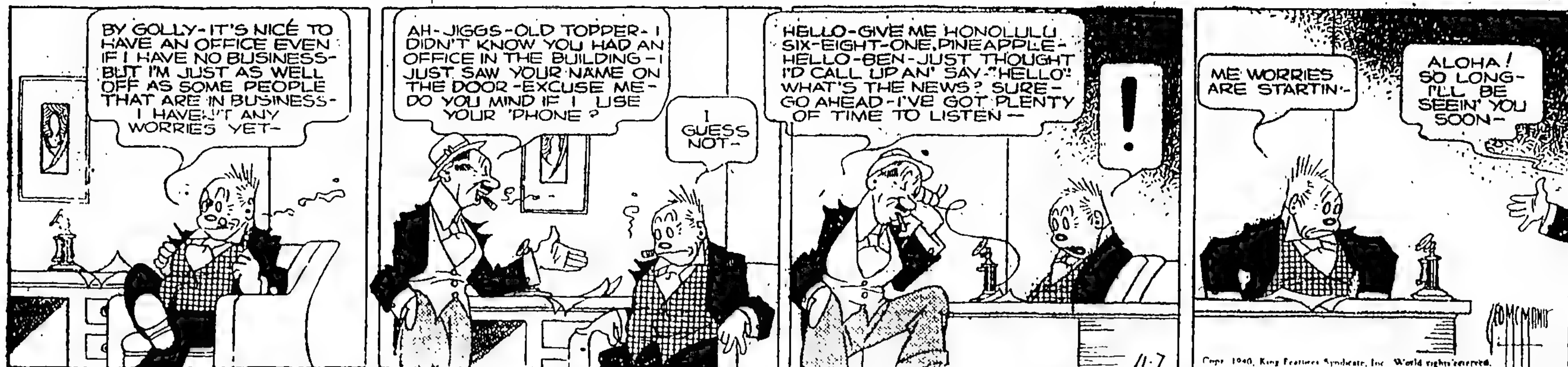
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Bringing Up Father

By George MacManus



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Skin Restoration

We all know that snakes shed their skins and lobsters their shells but not many of us realise that humans are constantly shedding skin too. The roughened cuticle of your scalp and the scaly particles of facial skin tell the story - actually new skin is continually forming underneath old. Thus seasonal changes in complexion tones take place, from dark to light and from light to dark according to the amount of sun and wind to which your face is exposed.

This is a comforting fact for those of us who look into the mirror and sigh at our fading summer complexions! Isn't it nice to realise that underneath that discoloured surface is a fresh skin waiting to show itself? And when you are told that there is a treatment available which will hurry the skin process you believe you are listening to one more fairy tale. But not!

Only Two Aids Required

Two companion aids have taken their bow in the cosmetic world which will help you banish your old summer skin more quickly. One is a cleansing cream with which to soften the hardened outer skin, the other is a can of small very fine grains with which to scrub your skin. This friction on the skin surface increases the circulation of blood to the face and has been found to be a definite benefit to an enlarged pore condition as well as helping to flake off the tired, discoloured top skin.

The grains are mixed into a paste with water. This paste is applied to your face after a thorough cream cleansing and skin



Your winter costume requires a new, fresh complexion — get rid of that tired summer skin!

rinsing. With a soft bristled complexion brush you scrub — the brisker the better if your skin can take it. If your skin is sensitive then you merely apply the paste and let it harden as you would

any complexion masque, and rinse it off with warm water followed by cold water astringent splashings. That is all there is to this new skin-shedding treatment and you can see your pores get a very deep cleansing and your face skin a much needed stimulation.

Good Black Head Treatment

Those of you who complain about blackheads or whiteheads around your nose, chin and high on your cheek bones might use these same two beauty aids once or twice a week. Twice weekly if your skin tends to be oily in spots, once if your skin is of normal or dry texture. Be certain to wash your face with water after the cream cleansing before you scrub with the paste.

There is nothing truly miraculous about this suggested treatment—what is actually happening is that your skin is getting a very thorough cleansing but the paste and the friction it causes, helps the tired skin to roll off revealing a nice fresh complexion which you should determine to keep beautiful!

line even with the middle of your ear down to and on the side of your chin. However do not let the rouge go on the inner side of the cheek—keep it on the outer side. Blend it carefully.

Trim your brows so they will have a slight arch beginning low near the eye and extending high over outer corner of the eye with a sudden drop at the end. The brow should be thicker near the eye. Eyeshadow should be applied from centre of lid to outer part of lid and then up to brow line—sort of oriental in effect. Only the upper outer lashes should be touched with colour to follow the shadow line.

If your lips tend to be squarish you should curve them more when applying lip rouge. Do not extend the rouge to the very corners. Instead draw more perfect, rounded lips ignoring the lower square corners particularly.

Study Your Face Contour

How you dress your hair and apply your make-up depends upon the shape of your face. It pays to study your reflection and to comb your hair in different arrangements as hidden beauty of face contour and hairline can be brought out.

It is estimated by beauty experts that there are eight general face shapes — oval, round, diamond, triangle, inverted, triangle, square and oblong. There are coiffure and make-up rules for each shape. To-day we will consider the girl with a round face and the girl with a square face.

The Round Face

How to make a round face appear more oval is the given problem. The hair should be dressed

away from the face, with fullness above the earline to create an illusion of length. The back hair may be worn in a long-bob effect filling in the space behind the ears.

Rouge should be placed on the outer area of the cheeks starting near the eye and blended down to chin. A foundation cream and powder which are darker than your current skin tone tends to reduce the fullness of your face.

Your brows should be left in natural arches, trim but not pencil-line thin. In fact the beginning of the arch near your nose should be accented by a pencil unless your brows are very dark. Apply mascara from the centre of your upper eyelashes to the outer lashes directly upward, and be sure they do not look beaded.

If your mouth is too small and too full for the size of your face, elongate it by applying your lip rouge with a brush to the far corners and minimise its fullness by not rouging a "high" cupid's bow. Draw the Joan Crawford type of mouth.

The Square Face

A square chin line and jaw as broad as forehead forms a square face and the hairline is usually high in front with no widow's peak. A girl with this shape face must dress her hair soft and loose with side fullness to minimise the strong jaw line. A side-part is usually best with the top hair combed in high side swirl.

Place your rouge low from a

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THE BUSINESS HOURS DURING THE HOLIDAYS OF OUR RETAIL DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN ARRANGED AS FOLLOWS:—

Sunday, 26th, 8.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Monday, 27th, Entirely Closed.
Tuesday, 28th, 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Wednesday, 29th, 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

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CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
On Monday, the 27th January, the General Post Office and all Branch Post Offices will be entirely closed. There will be no collection from the pillar-boxes and no delivery by Post-men.

On Tuesday, the 28th January, the General Post Office and Kowloon Central Post Office will be open from 8 a.m. to noon, Sheungwan Branch Post Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and the other Branch Post Offices will be entirely closed.

There will be one collection from the pillar-boxes as on Sundays and one delivery of registered and ordinary correspondence at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 28th January.

There will also be one delivery of ordinary correspondence at 11 a.m. on 28th January from the Branch Post Offices at Stanley, Taiipo and Un Long. The Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the holidays.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

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United Kingdom and Straits, Calcutta and Shanghai	
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Reg.	4.30 p.m.
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Straits and Rangoon	5.30 p.m.
SUNDAY	
Canton	5.00 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco.	
Reg. (25)	5.00 p.m.
Ord. (28)	8.30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY	
Manila, Batavia and Sou- rabaya	8.30 a.m.
Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Thursday Island, G.P.O. & K.P.O.	
Reg.	2.45 p.m.
Ord.	3.30 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa	3.30 p.m.
Rangoon and Calcutta	3.30 p.m.

RADIO

12.30 p.m.—Schumann—Trio in D Minor,
Op. 63. Cortot, Thibaud and Casals.

1.03 p.m.—Raie da Costa at the Piano.

1.13 p.m.—Billy Cotton and His Band.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press.
Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.32 p.m.—Variety with Charlie Kunz,
Greta Keller and Flotsam & Jetsam.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of
the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—London Relay—Special
Broadcast to the Forces in the Far
East.

8.03 p.m.—Derek Oldham (Tenor) and
De Groot & His Orchestra.

8.25 p.m.—Film Selections.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News &
News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—Rachmaninoff—Concerto, No.
3 in D Minor, Op. 30.
1st Mov: Allegro; 2nd Mov: Inter-
mezzo—Adagio; 3rd Mov: Finale—
Allegro. Vladimir Horowitz (Pia-
no) and The London Symphony
Orchestra.

10.05 p.m.—Local sports results.

10.08 p.m.—Bizet's "Carmen", Act 1.
Singers in order of appearance: Ines
Alfrani, Tellini; Astrid Baracchi;
Aureliano Pertile; Bruno Carmassi;
Aurora Buades and Chorus of La
Scala, Milan, with the Milan Sym-
phony Orchestra conducted by Loren-
zo Molajoli.

11.00 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "In
My Opinion."

11.15 p.m.—Variety and Dance Music.

12.00 midnight—Close down.

BOY COULD TAKE IT

Buried up to his neck in debris after an Anderson shelter in which he and his parents and his two-year-old sister had taken refuge had been wrecked by a bomb, nine-year-old Ronnie Troman, of N.-W. London, sang while rescuers dug away at the wreckage.

As they reached him Ronnie said to them: "I am not going to cry 'cos I'm a cub and I can take it."

His cubmaster had once told the wolf cub pack that if anything happened to any of them they should remember that they were cubs and set a good example by being brave.

Ronnie and his parents were rescued, all injured, and taken to hospital. His baby sister was killed.

Jimmy Nichols, a Scout and friend of Ronnie, told a reporter: "A R. P. workers say Ronnie deserves a medal."

"All the time he and the fami-ly were trapped he was hum-ling to himself. He must have thought of our cubmaster's words about being brave."

"We of the Troop are proud of this young Cub."

FIREMEN ON LOOT CHARGES

No fewer than 20 charges of looting from bombed premises are included in the 56 cases down for hearing at the Old Bailey Ses-sion.

Ten of the persons accused of these offences are described as auxiliary firemen.

There are two cases of mur-der. Ida Ethel Rodway, a 61-year-old machinist, committed from North London, is accused of the murder of Joseph William Rodway, and James Miller (45), a polisher, committed from Old Street, is charged with the mur-der of Elizabeth Miller.

5 GERMAN AIRMEN ASHORE

Five German airmen came ashore during the night in a rubber boat between two East Anglian coast villages.

Some were arrested by the mili-tary, the others gave themselves up.

OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16				17		
18			19				20	21	22	
			23			24		25		
26	27				28			29	30	31
32				33				34		
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41			42			43			44	45
46		47		48	49			50		
51			52		53			54		
55					56			57		

HORIZONTAL	46 Tavern	VERTICAL	10 Ancient Irish capital
1 King of Israel	48 Subject	1 So be it	11 Varicoloured quartz
2 Levantine sailing vessel	50 Atmosphere	2 Wife of Zeus	13 Aromatic plant
3 Preposition	51 Dutch cheese	3 Fruit drinks	14 Easy gait
4 Large sea	52 Doctrine	4 Prefix: two	19 Bacteriologist's wire
5 Before	54 Singing voice	5 Connection of discord	21 Archaic: the
6 Apothegm	55 To bind	6 Goddess of	23 Metric measure
7 To attempt	56 Music: as written	7 Back	24 Colloquial: portion
8 Symbol for sodium	57 Avers	8 Preposition	25 Wild
9 Burden		9 To yield	26 Ancient pistol
10 Per			27 Large South American snake
11 Chopping tool			28 Arid
12 Minus			30 Truth
13 Musical character			31 Siamese coin
14 Leafy-stemmed plant			33 Lout
15 Owing			34 To inform
16 Girl's name			36 Haze
17 Poker stake			37 Sound
18 Worthless leaving			39 Artificial language
19 Allowance for waste			40 Mark of punctuation
20 Pike-like fish			41 To fast
21 Is likely to			43 Remainder
22 Core			45 God of love
23 Hair-line			47 Short sleep
24 House plant			49 Pronoun
25 Note of scale			50 Wing-like part
26 Bone			52 Pronoun
27 List			54 While
28 Symbol for cerium			

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

A	S	E	A	G	E	L	S	A	F	E
S	O	U	L	A	X	E	P	L	A	Y
O	L	A	P	E	R	S	U	A	R	I
R	O	O	T	F	U	A	R	I	E	S
G	E	E	N	O	R					
E	L	I	R	O	T	E	A	G	A	R
F	A	Z	A	A	R	S	T	O	R	M
F	R	E	D	A	L	E	A	T	E	
				A	D	O	A	P	T	
C	A	N	A	L	U	S	R	E	N	O
O	B	E	D	I	E	N	T	A	F	A
C	E	R	E	A	G	A	T	U	N	A
O	D	I	N	T	E	R	E	L	A	N

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All donations will be acknowledged in the columns of The S. C. M. Post.

Entries received to date for the Colony Open Junior Chess Championship now number nine. Players who will compete in the Tournament are R. C. Danenberg, D. Dreke, R. C. Gardner, J. Grafalda, V. V. Kolatchoff, Wm. Lee. E. Petrov, A. C. Poupard and To Yu-lau.

The Tournament is open to the Colony, and all entries should be addressed to Mr. A. Kurrik, Hon. Secretary of the Colony Chess Championship Committee, care of the Government Analysts Department. The entry fee is \$3.

Entries will be received up to Jan. 30 (inclusive).

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ATTRACTIVE SOFTBALL TIES TO BE HELD OVER HOLIDAYS

Mohawks To Play Twice

Ladies' League Team To Meet Kowloon F.C.

By "Grandstand"

DURING THE Chinese New Year holidays, the Marauding Mohawks will stage two charity softball games, the first on Monday against the South China Squadron of the United States Navy in aid of the Bomber Fund, and the second on Tuesday against a strong Portuguese nine for the benefit of the worthy Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Ever since the Mohawks hit town for the opening of the local Softball circuit, Hong Kong has been a softball-crazed burg, with the fans turning out in full every Sabbath, whilst such names as Lou Leight, Fitch and Joe Morris have been on everybody's lips, their spectacular Leight-Fitch-Hearthier twin killings being the chief topic.

Prior to the appearance of the Mohawks, and even until recently, when U.S.S. Tulsa scored a victory over the Mohawks, the U.S. Navy have always been considered head-men in these affairs.

Convinced that they are the better team, the Mohawks will be all out to prove their superiority over the great super-team from the U.S. Navy in this return engagement, and, whoever wins, you can bet your last shirt that you'll get your 50 cents worth.

Mohawks' Line-Up

For the Mohawks, Cy "Screwball" Jones will take mound duties, with Joe Morris hindsnatching, and I'd like to see anyone sneak a base off him. Airtight infield will be made up of Ernie Hearther, first-base, Johnnie Davis, second-base, Lou Leight, third base, and Fitch, short-stop. Gardeners will be Sperry, Crews and Sells.

As a preliminary to this game Kowloon Football Club members, will take on a team selected from the Ladies' League, and, if turning out for practices means anything, the Footballers mean business.

Their line-up has not yet been decided upon but will be selected from the following: "Birdie" Woodcock, Doc. "Bonesetter" Molthen, Colonel Dave Walker, Bob "Guinea-gold" Ogden, "Junky" Stephens, Bill "Boomerang" Mezger, Charlie "Fullabull" Fuller, "Titbits" Bones, "Wrecker" Dand, "Sparks" Humphrey, Chris "Sherlock" Dowman, Chico "Sluggo" Wong, Vic "Two-Ton" Chittenden and "Godown" Eastman.

Redbird third-sacker Gladys "Grandma" Hutchinson, has accepted that honourable position of bat-boy.

Formidable Team

The League Management have selected a formidable team from the ladies loop, and the following have been chosen:—Lily "Sun-

SOFTBALL PROGRAMME

TO-MORROW

SENIOR LEAGUE
(At the Kowloon Football Ground)
Canadian Chinese v St. Joseph's
(10.30 a.m.)
(Huckjai Kitchell, Charlie Figueiredo and Kassa Nazarin.)

Recreio Aces v Indians
(11.45 a.m.)
(Hal Winglee, Herbie Quon and Stan Leonard.)

JUNIOR LEAGUE
(At the Kowloon Football Ground)
Chung Hwa v V.R.C.
(9.00 a.m.)
(Bill Woo, J. Fonseca and Geegee Lee.)

(At the Chatham Road Military Football Ground)
Cosmopolitans v Central Britishers
(9.00 a.m.)
(P. K. Lau, Al Lau and Richard Chung.)

Chung Hwa v Royal Scots
(10.15 a.m.)
(Pinky Higgins, Gas Oliver and Willie Woo.)

V.R.C. v Liga Portuguesa
(11.30 a.m.)
(Wally Welford, Cecil Winglee and Tommy Young.)

South China v Royal Engineers
(12.45 p.m.)
(Bimby Ablong, Roy Maxwell and C. Coelho.)

INTER-HONG LEAGUE
(At the Marina Ground)
Shell Oilers v Chartered Bankers
(10.00 a.m.)
(Charlie C. W. Ng, M. Souza and Tony Pereira.)

shine" Mar, first-sacker; keystone Celeste Marques; Irene Castilho, short-stop; Gloria Mar, hot-corner keeper; with Irene "Sluggo" Pereira, Betty Fitzgerald, and Theresa Marques patrolling the pastures
Wahoo first-sacker Yvonne Yolle will be the only utility, whilst two batteries have been provided for. Canuckettes Mary Ng and Dot Louie will be one, and the other Therese Noronha and Jackie Anderson of the Wahoos.

Portuguese Team

Having beaten the Recreio Aces twice in the Senior League, the Mohawks have got a bit ambitious and will take on a Portuguese nine, on Tuesday. The Mohawks' line-up will be the

VITAL JUNIOR SOFTBALL FIXTURE

By "Grandstand"

The postponed Chung Hwa-V.R.C. softball tilt, which will be played off to-morrow on the Kowloon Football Club ground at 9.00 a.m., will be the highlight of the Second Division five-game schedule.

Since the result of this game will probably decide the junior champs for the season, the Victorians have been holding full practices for the past few weeks at the K.F.C. ground, and will be all out to-morrow to upset Chung Hwa, who are given the edge in this tussle.

V.R.C.'s new discovery, David Hutchinson, has earned the berth of keeping the initial station, mainly on account of his hitting power. His reach will also stand him in good stead in that position. A practice has been arranged for 2.45 p.m. to-day at the Marina Ground, and the following players have been asked to turn up: A. C. Brown, A. H. Azedo, M. M. de V. Soares, Roy Maxwell, D. Hutchinson, A. E. Ablong, E. Ribeiro, A. V. Ozorio, C. Quinn, Lionel Roza-Pereira, E. D. da Roza, R. Barradas, R. Castro, Sammy Izatt, A. A. Remedios, A. A. Noronha, C. Roza, and P. Antonio.

Chung Hwa Confident

The Chung Hwa squad are confident of taking this game, and it is rumoured that they are willing to give odds on themselves. Jay Liu will start on the mound for Chung Hwa with Fung behind the bat.

Umpires will be Bill Woo, behind the plate, Johnnie Fonseca and Geegee Lee in charge of the bases.

In view of the short notice given for this game, players are requested to accept the press notices as official.

As is always the case, when players of the same nationality (Continued on foot of Next Col.)

same as for the previous day, whilst the Portuguese contingent will be from the Recreio Aces, strengthened by "Ozo" Ozorio and George Souza from St. Joseph's.

Mentor Riri Noronha has announced that he will start Gerry Souza on the mound for the Portuguese, with Gerry's team-mate Charlie Figueiredo behind the bat. Nick Beltrao will look after the initial station, whilst Tony "Peewee" Alves will be holding the hot-corner.

Josephians Ozorio and Souza will be the keystone combination. Eddie "Doctor" Gosano, Dick Alves and Bertie Gosano will be the outfielders.

RECREIO TO MEET INDIANS IN KEEN TUSSLE TO-MORROW

By "Grandstand"

HIGHLIGHTING THE Senior Softball League double-header at the Kowloon Football Ground at 11.45 a.m. to-morrow, the Recreio Aces clash with the Indians in what should be a fight to the finish.

Both teams have had three defeats chalked up against them but are still clinging to the ever-existent possibility of the Saints and the Mohawks, both tied for the lead, dropping a game apiece and thus giving them a look-in at the finish.

The odds are against the crippled Recreio Aces pulling this game out of the fire, but you can always depend on them to be in there fighting till the last putout.

Gerry Gosano, who is now considered Mentor Riri Noronha's ace hurler, will start on the slab, with Charlie Figueiredo. Regular outfielder Bertie Gosano will be yanked in from the garden to keep the hot-corner, whilst Dick Alves will be roped in to fill the left field patch in the absence of Johnnie Fonseca.

Indians Serious

Since a loss will definitely eliminate the Indians, they are not taking things too easily, and, rain or shine, they have been seen taking their cuts twice weekly. Kassa Nazarin, as usual, will start on the mound, with Tarzan Ismail, behind the bat.

Infielders will be Romeo "Perfect-fielding" Hamet, at first "Baby" Abbas at second and Obeer "Shorty" Arculli at third, with Huckjai Kitchell in the windy alley. Ballhawk will be manager Ahwoo Omar, "Slim" Arculli and "Savage" Hassan.

Although Nazarin is by no means a fire-ball artist, the Rambling Rees. will find him hard to hit, especially as their stick-work is not exactly of a jolting nature! As a matter of fact, only two Recreio players have managed to be included in the Magic Circle of 300 hitters, and they are Zinho Gosano and Tony Peewee Alves. With the former hors de combat hitting should not worry the Indians.

Umpires for this game will be Hal Winglee, Herbie Quon and Stan Leonard.

Saints Confident

At 10.30 a.m. St. Joseph's tangle with the Canadian Chinese. In spite of Canuck hurler Herbie Quon's come-back ballyhoo, the Saints are confident of being able to slap that apple right back at him, for they have, smack-dab in the centre of their batting order, four of the League's heavy hitters in Dave Leonard, Stan Leonard, Ozo Ozorio and Ski Powlawski.

Arbitrators for this game will be Huckjai Kitchell, Charlie Figueiredo, and Kassa Nazarin.

are on opposite sides of the fence, great rivalry exists between them, and the V.R.C.-Liga clash slated for 11.30 a.m. will be no exception. Although Liga is in the bottom half of the League table, they can be a very dangerous team at times, and it was only through bad luck that they lost the decision to the third-place R.A.F. last week, after three extra innings were played.

Port-sider Cesar Coelho will assume mound duties for the Souza-men, with Ibra hindsnatching.

Other Games

The Cosmopolitans should be able to take the verdict when they meet the Central Britishers at 9.00 a.m. whilst the Chung Hwa-Royal Scots tussle at 10.15 a.m. should be interesting.

South China take on the Engineers in the night-cap at 12.15 p.m. With a full team the Sappers should be able to extend the Nam Hwa squad.

Bill Quon and Cecil Winglee will be the South China battery.



SCOTLAND FAVOURED

England are without Paul for to-day's International Rugby Final against Scotland on the Club ground, at 4.15 p.m., while Winter has come into the pack instead of Bompas.

Scotland are without McGill, and Stewart will now play on the wing with Carruthers as his partner. The pack has been weakened by the absence of Pinkerton and Watson.

Team changes have tended to even up the game, but Scotland are bound to take the field slight favourites.

At 3.15 p.m. a combined Club-Police fifteen will meet the Combined Services.

Following are the teams:
ENGLAND:—Thompson; Bosanquet, Carter, Coombes, Marsh; Charter and Fowd.; Winter; Wright-Nooth, Hewitt and Needham.

SCOTLAND:—D. H. Taylor; Macdonald, Douglass, Carruthers and Stewart; Aitkenhead and Thomson; Sutherland, Ford, Macrae; Kennedy, Millar; Godfrey, A. J. G. Taylor and Duke.

CLUB-POLICE:—Lavalle; Van Leeuwen, Fay, Dingdale and P. Wilson; Jackson and Morgan; Walden, Castleton, Cullinan; Oakley, Olsen; A. N. Other, Stout and Redman.

BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

At a meeting of the Council of Hong Kong Badminton Association held yesterday, it was decided to hold the following championships this season.—Men's singles (senior and junior); men's doubles (senior and junior); women's doubles, mixed doubles.

With the exception of the mixed doubles, the holding of which is subject to there being at least six entries, the championships will be held only if there is a minimum of eight entries for each. In the case of the junior singles, the proviso is that it will only be held if there are at least eight entries for the senior section; if the entries fall below that number they will be referred by the sub-committee to the Council for further consideration.

Entries by players not attached to clubs affiliated with the Association are to be accepted but they are subject to the discretion of the sub-committee as to whether they should be put in the senior or junior section. At the same time, such players are invited to state what standard of badminton they have been playing.

No senior League players can play in junior championships, but junior players can enter whichever class they like.

The following sub-committee was appointed to supervise the competitions.—Messrs. A. L. Fisher, Liu Kwai-lau, M. A. Oliveira, P. K. Hui, J. Shepherd and M. Talan (secretary).

Entries will close on February 15. Fees will be the same as last year, \$2 per player in the singles and \$4 per pair in the doubles.

The question of whether St. John's should be transferred to "A" Division of the League was discussed and it was decided that they be allowed to remain in "B" Division.

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UNIQUE LEAGUE FIXTURE

Club To Play Eastern On Tuesday Morning

IMPORTANT JUNIOR MATCH TO-DAY

By "Adrem"

MOST IMPORTANT game in to-day's programme of friendly cricket matches will be the Recreio-K.C.C. fixture at King's Park which will vitally affect the eventual destination of the Junior Shield.

Recreio are at the head at the moment with an unbeaten record in three games, whereas K.C.C., who have a very powerful team on paper, were held to a draw recently by University after running up a total of 211 for 0.

Chiefly responsible for Recreio's successes thus far has been P. M. N. da Silva, who has been in splendid form both with the bat and the ball. It must be admitted, however, that Silva has yet to come up against a strong batting side and although he may do fairly well this afternoon I cannot see him returning any analysis as spectacular as hitherto, with the K.C.C. batsmen in such good fettle.

If there is a definite result I favour K.C.C. to secure it.

Civil Service Favoured

In Senior Division Civil Service make their first appearance in the League in opposition to Craigengower. If Craigengower can get Richardson, Griffiths and Perry out cheaply they should win but, having regard to the better-balanced batting in the Civil Service team, and their quite adequate bowling, I rather think they will win.

Although University have done extraordinarily well thus far in beating I.R.C. and drawing with Recreio, I fancy they will meet their Waterloo this afternoon when they come up against the champions.

K.C.C. will have their four bowlers playing and they should have little to worry about with regard to scoring runs and so they should score their second win.

Entertaining Recreio at Sookunpoo, I.R.C. will be all out to prove that despite their beating at the hands of University they are a force to be reckoned with. On the accurate I.R.C. wicket, I am inclined to think this match will end in a draw.

In the only other League match, there should be little in it at the finish at Pokfulam, where University entertain Civil Service in Junior Division.

Following is the programme and some of the teams:—

PROGRAMME

FIRST DIVISION	
C.S.C.C.	v C.C.C.
K.C.C.	v University
I.R.C.	v Recreio
SECOND DIVISION	
Recreio	v K.C.C.
University	v C.S.C.C.
FRIENDLIES	
H.K.C.C.	v Police
H.M.S. Tamar	v I.R.C.

TEAMS

I.R.C. 1st XI:—K. Nazarin (Capt.), M. el Arculli, A. H. Rumjahn, A. H. Madar, M. P. Madar, A. R. Kitchell, S. A. Ismail, K. M. Rumjahn, A. R. H. Esmail, A. R. Minu and A. N. Other.

C.C.C. 1st XI:—E. Zimmern (Capt.), P. J. Billimoria, A. B. Hamson, A. J. Hulce, A. Hung, A. K. Ismail, E. A. Lee, E. J. Mitchell, W. Hong Sling, G. Souza and J. L. Youngsaye. Reserve: T. H. Edgar.

K.C.C. 1st XI:—E. C. Fincher (Capt.), N. D. Lloyd, D. J. N. Anderson, E. F. Fincher, R. E. Lee, D. Hung, F. R. Zimmern, A. Zimmern, F. J. Lay, R. T. Broadbridge and N. A. E. Mackay.

C.S.C.C. 1st XI:—J. E. Richardson (Capt.), K. J. Attwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, T. V. N. Fortescue, R. H. Griffiths, B. C. K. Hawkins, D. McLellan, A. E. Perry, N. Whitley and A. M. J. Wright.

I.R.C. 2nd XI:—M. R. Abbas (Capt.), A. H. Ismail, A. R. Suffad, M. I. Razack, T. Ali, F. A. Curroem, M. B. Hassan, A. el Arculli, M. A. Wahab, A. M. Rumjahn and A. Ebrahim.

FANLING HUNT POINT-TO-POINT

By "Ratcatcher"

The Fanling Hunt will hold its first point-to-point of the season at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

The point-to-point this year is being run on a new basis. Competitors are forming teams of two, the first team being the one gaining the best marks, with marks being allotted in the individual order of finishing.

Fifteen teams (20 individual riders) have been entered and they represent the following organisations:—

30th Heavy Battery, R.A.
5th A.A. Regiment, R.A.
2nd Mountain Battery, H.K.S.R.A.
The Royal Scots (2 teams)
The Middlesex Regiment.
The Cottage Club (4 teams).
Es-Mounted Infantry, H.K.-V.D.C.
Old Rugleians.
"H2" (The Yacht Club).
The Hong Kong Club Snake Pit.

Starting Point

The starting point will be near Dill's Corner and from there, with no flags to mark the course over or under natural obstacles, competitors will make their way to the Winning Post on the Race Course at Kwant, which will be marked by flags.

Australian ponies are conceding 1½ minutes to China ponies at the start.

Anyone may win, irrespective of the speed of his mount, as there are about five different routes to take and it remains to be seen which is the shortest. If I were making a book, I should make the oldest horse favourite, as he probably knows the shortest way and will probably not be deterred by any efforts on the part of the rider to "alter course." A whisper has been round asking if you may "use horse-boxes?"

Hong Kong Jockey Club would find great difficulty in handicapping an event of this sort by weight. Therefore, as we are at a loss to know what to do, we have ruled that weights will not be declared, mostly to conceal the fact that we are ashamed to be only 90 lb. or a mere 220lb. What does it matter, anyway? People generally buy horses that are up to their own weight.

After the race, the prizes will be presented at the "Hunters' Arms"—Contributed.

TO-DAY'S HOCKEY

St. Andrew's Ladies will entertain Hong Kong Ladies in a friendly hockey match at King's Park this afternoon, bully-off at 3 p.m., while Y.M.C.A. seniors and juniors will be seen in action on the Navy ground.

The following will represent Y.M.C.A.:

Seconds, 3 p.m.—Clegggett; Grant, Railton; Saxby, Tomlinson, Gorman; Macey, Olson, Dormer, Fancey, Banks.

Firsts v Nomads, 4.15 p.m.—Clegggett; Taylor, Yourieff; Jordan, Coombes, Waldron; Spenceley, Spare, Hitchcock, Morhan, Dunne.

Major W. W. Parsons.
C.S.C.C. 2nd XI:—H. E. Strange (Capt.), G. Ainello, J. Barrow, G. Davidson, J. E. Lawrence, T. Lockhart, J. F. MacGowan, J. Mitchell, F. L. Smith, G. Stone and A. Watson.

Recreio 2nd XI:—E. A. R. Alves, P. M. N. da Silva Jr., H. A. Barros, A. J. M. Prata, A. E. Noronha, F. H. Carvalho, B. T. Gonsalo, J. A. Soares, F. J. Remedios, M. d'Almeida Remedios and A. H. d'Almeida Remedios.

WEEK-END SOCCER PROGRAMME

Following are the football fixtures for the week-end:

To-day

First Division	
Police	v Sing Tao
(Boundary Street, 4 p.m.)	
Kowloon	v St. Joseph's
(Kowloon, 4 p.m.)	
Club	v Royal Scots
(Caroline Hill, 4 p.m.)	
Second Division	
Service Corps	v Middlesex
(Sookunpoo, 4 p.m.)	
Kil Chee	v Royal Scots
(Caroline Hill, 2.30 p.m.)	
Kowloon	v Ordnance
(Kowloon, 2.30 p.m.)	
Engineers	v South China
(Sookunpoo, 4 p.m.)	
Sing Tao	v Navy
(St. Joseph's, 4 p.m.)	
Police	v Club
(Boundary Street, 2.30 p.m.)	
Third Division	
International	v 33th R.A.
(St. Joseph's, 2.30 p.m.)	
Engineers	v A.S.A.
(Military, 2.30 p.m.)	
Shell	v Signals
(Military, 4.00 p.m.)	
20th R.A.	v 24th R.A.
(Chatham Road, 2.30 p.m.)	

To-morrow

Lai Wah Cup Semi-Final	
Navy	v Civilians
(Kowloon, 3.30 p.m.)	

Monday

Lai Wah Cup Semi-Final	
Chinese	v Army
(Navy ground, 3.30 p.m.)	
First Division	
Club	v Eastern
(Club, 11 a.m.)	
Third Division	
A.S.A.	v 24th R.A.
(Chatham Road, 4 p.m.)	
First Division	

Tuesday

Kotewall Cup	
Navy	v Chinese
(Sookunpoo, 3.30 p.m.)	
Second Division	
Club	v Service Corps
(Club, 4 p.m.)	
Kowloon	v Kit Chee
(Chatham Road, 2.30 p.m.)	
Sing Tao	v South China
(Caroline Hill, 2.30 p.m.)	
Third Division	

Wednesday

Second Division	
Royal Scots	v Engineers
(Sookunpoo, 2.30 p.m.)	
Third Division	
Medicals	v Engineers
(Military, 4 p.m.)	

Can Police Again Beat Sing Tao?

By "Referee"

IN THE ABSENCE of an Interport this season, the semi-finals of the Lai Wah Cup Competition will provide the main fare for soccer fans over the Chinese New Year Holidays, and the better game should be that at Causeway Bay on Monday, where Chinese (holders) meet Army.

Advantage has also been taken of the free week-end to re-arrange a number of postponed matches and several will be played this afternoon and a large number on Monday and Tuesday, which are holidays.

Eastern and Club are making a new departure by playing their First Division game on Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. The reason is that Club are far behind in their fixtures owing to Volunteer duties and are anxious to catch up as soon as possible.

In Deference To Charity

As the Kotewall Cup game between South China and Navy will be played in the afternoon the clubs concerned did not wish that their game should clash and thus affect charity, no matter to how small a degree, and have both agreed to play in the morning.

This is the first time that a League game has been played before noon.

To-day Police are at home to Sing Tao in First Division. In the first game Police lowered the then unbeaten record of Sing Tao and are out to show that this was no mere fluke.

Sing Tao are in the running for the Championship and will not take any chances this afternoon; they are fielding their best side.

Kowloon should easily account for St. Joseph's, who will be without S. Tsang in goal and A. J. Hussain their full back. Added to this it is doubtful whether Fernandes will be available owing to work.

The Royal Scots-Club game should be evenly contested and there should not be much difference in the final score.

Two important games will be played in Second Division and the results of these will have an important bearing on the final standings of the teams. Engineers meet South China, their strongest challengers, at Sookunpoo and a win for the Sappers will just about give them the championship.

Middlesex and Service Corps, who met in the Junior Shield last week when Service Corps won by 6-3 after extra time, meet at Sookunpoo. The latter team have a good chance for at least the runners-up position if they win.

To-morrow's Games

To-morrow Civilians meet Navy in the semi-final of the Lai Wah Cup Competition and should win. Civilians have chosen a strong side and several players who have not figured in representative games this season will be seen in action. Navy will be represented by their usual League team.

Army expect to give the Chinese a good game in the other semi-final on Monday. Army have included several Junior players in their side and on the whole are a well-balanced and well-chosen unit.

INTER-SOCIETY LAWN BOWLS

Following have been selected to represent the Society of Yorkshiremen in Hong Kong, and the Northumberland and Durham Society in a friendly lawn bowls match at Kowloon Bowling Green Club, starting at 2.30 p.m. to-morrow:—

Society of Yorkshiremen—A. G. Grattan, A. L. Fisher, C. F. Needham and A. Brooksbank (Skip); A. R. Brown, H. H. Mundy, A. Jilott and J. Deakin (Skip); A. N. Other, J. H. Bottomley, G. B. Foster and M. N. Rakusen (Skip); P. Barry Parks, J. H. Shaw, L. Sykes and J. G. Meyer (Skip).

Northumberland and Durham Society—S. Hodge, Dean Wilson, V. Ramsay and J. Fraser (Skip); J. S. R. Humble, J. W. Hudson, J. McGowan and T. Coleman (Skip); C. E. Turpin, J. Hempsey, C. Gowan and T. W. Carr (Skip); James Smith, R. Rodford, W. Greig and D. Kossick (Skip).

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HYPERION'S LAST HOURS

Story Worthy Of Best Traditions Of The Sea

VICHY FORMS A SECRET COUNCIL

A body called the National Council, with some 200 members, is to be constituted by a law gazetted in Vichy yesterday. Its functions will be purely consultative. Members will represent all "essential elements" of French life.

Meetings will be in secret with the Head of the State, Marshal Petain, deciding on any details for publication.—Reuter.

KAFFIRS RECOVER SMARTLY

Outstanding feature of the London Stock Exchange yesterday was the smart recovery of Kaffirs on recent sellers turning buyers. Elsewhere business was mainly slow. Industrials, after hesitation, steadied on the announcement that Woolworth's dividend for the year was maintained at 65 per cent. Among foreign shares Belgian Four Per Cents and the San Paulo Seven Per Cent Coffee Loan were prominent. Wall Street was steady.—Reuter.

Sacrificed To Protect Main Forces

BEHIND THE BRIEF Admiralty announcement of the loss of the destroyer H.M.S. Hyperion through enemy mine or torpedo is a story worthy of the best sea tradition—a story of how the small destroyer, protected by another destroyer, lay crippled in the sea almost under the very guns of the Italians.

It was nearly two hours before a call for assistance was sent out, so that operations on which she was engaged should not be detected.

TRANSPORT SPEED-UP

THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT HAS DISCLOSED SOME OF THE MEASURES TAKEN TO SPEED UP THE HANDLING OF CARGO.

Local officials have been instructed that they must comply with any instructions issued by the two Port Directors recently appointed.

LONDON'S QUIET TIME

There was no enemy air activity over Britain last night and for four successive nights London had no alerts.—Reuter.

The destroyer formed part of light forces which, sweeping the Adriatic as far as Durazzo, were returning after an uneventful cruise full speed ahead for home.

They did not know for some hours after that Hyperion, investigating the possible presence of a submarine, had struck a mine and was badly holed aft.

It was essential, however, that the main forces should proceed unmolested, as they were still within range of E-boats, and only one destroyer was detached as protection.

This destroyer came alongside her crippled companion, transferred casualties and endeavoured to tow her.

Tow Parted

Unfortunately the tow rope parted and it was thus that Hyperion was subsequently found, with cabins and the wardroom flooded and the attendant destroyer looming a cable's length distance away.

A quick decision was made. The small destroyer force was in a vulnerable position, with only two hours of darkness in which to get clear, and it would be impossible to tow Hyperion.

A message was sent to Hyperion to abandon ship, whereafter a signal was given to one of the circling destroyers to sink her.

There followed a flash from torpedo tubes, a few seconds pause and then a deep muffled explosion. Hyperion was no more.—Reuter.

BRITAIN WASTING NO TIME

THE CAPTURE OF TOBRUK BY THE BRITISH WAS WIDELY COMMENTED ON BY THE PRESS IN UNOCCUPIED FRANCE YESTERDAY.

The newspaper "Figaro" says Egypt would now appear to be secure against an Italian offensive—unless the Axis powers can reform a great army in Libya.

According to a writer in "Action Francaise" the British aim is a "veritable strategic offensive for the conquest of the southern coastline of the Mediterranean. At the same time Britain threatens Ethiopia. She is not wasting time."—Reuter.

"MENDOZA" PROTEST

A joint protest by all American republics against the detention of the French steamer "Mendoza" by a British armed cruiser within the Pan-American Neutrality Zone is suggested in a communication from the Foreign Minister of Panama to all Chancelleries of American Republics.

At the origin of this communication was a note addressed to the Government of Panama by the Brazilian Foreign Minister describing the seizure of the "Mendoza" as a "hostile act."—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

Increased rates of postage are announced in the Government Gazette this morning, as follows:—

Local: from 4 cents to 5 cents.

British possessions overseas: from 15 cents to 20 cents.

China and Macao: from 5 cents to 8 cents.

All other countries: from 25 cents to 30 cents.

Norwegians can now act as master or officer in a British ship under a notification in the Gazette this morning.

A new marking system and scale for the Police Force, under the Police Pensions Regulations, appears in the "Gazette" this morning.

The following appointments are gazetted:—

Mr. Roland Arthur Charles North to act as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Brian Charles Keith Hawkins to act as Secretary for Chinese Affairs, in addition to his other duties.

The Honourable Mr. Alexander Bruce Purves to be Accommodation Officer, vice Henry Joseph Pearce, Esq., M.C.

Mr. Seiki Yano, Consul-General for Japan at Hong Kong, resumed charge of the Consulate-General for Japan on 23rd January.

Mr. W. M. Smith to act as Deputy Chief Officer, Fire Brigade.

Mr. Maurice Alfred Johnson, O.B.E., M.M., to be Assistant Superintendent of Police Reserve.

Mr. Leonard John Davies to be Assistant Superintendent of Police (Reserve).

MR. WILLKIE IN LISBON

The Yankee Clipper, with Mr. Wendell Willkie on board, arrived in Lisbon yesterday morning. Mr. Willkie is en route to England.—Reuter.

CLOTHING U.S. ARMY

President Roosevelt has asked Congress for an immediate appropriation of \$175,000,000 for clothing equipment for an Army of approximately 1,400,000 men.—Reuter.

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